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# DAILY DIGEST

prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXIII, No. 41

Section 1

May 29, 1939

## NATIONAL ISOLATION

Secretary Hull declared last night in a strong denunciation of proposals for national isolation that if such a policy were carried out, "regimentation in practically every phase of national life would be the inevitable consequence." Addressing the Chicago Sunday Evening Club, the Secretary of State asserted that "one needs only to look at the experience of the few countries which have attempted to reorganize themselves on a basis of even partial self-sufficiency to realize what the results of such regimentation would probably be." "There is no more disastrous illusion," he stated, "than the thought that isolation would make it easier for us to solve our great domestic problems. The exact reverse is true." Loss of foreign markets would throw millions out of work and drastically curtail industry, resulting in a lower standard of living for the nation, he asserted. (New York Times.)

## RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

Reports of improved business multiplied yesterday as government and private agencies scanned figures on production and sales from over the country, says a report in the Washington Post. Outstanding was the continued gain in construction and lumber activity. The Forest Service, in a report on non-farm residential building, forecast an increase in lumber consumption of 32,000,000,000 board feet for the 10-year period 1940-49. It estimated 650,000 new home units would be constructed in 1939, a considerable increase over the rate so far this year. The report placed lumber consumption in such residential building at slightly more than 46,000,000,000 board feet for the 1930-39 decade and estimated that figure would shoot up to 78,000,000,000 in the coming 10 years. The National Lumber Manufacturers Association, meanwhile, said lumber production in the week ended May 20 was the heaviest for any week so far in 1939. Production in the first 20 weeks of 1939 was 18 percent above that of the corresponding period of last year, shipments were up 13 percent and new orders up 14 percent.

## PINE FOR NEWSPRINT

Southern newspaper publishers Saturday dedicated at Lufkin, Texas, a plant that will convert native pine into newsprint. Fifty thousand tons of newsprint annually will begin to roll from the \$6,000,000 mill about December 1. The publishers, who now buy most of their paper from Canada and Sweden, have signed contracts for the first year's output. (A.P.).



Wallace

on Cotton

"Secretary Wallace disclosed a few days ago that the United States would call an international conference this summer or fall to seek ways of improving cotton prices and dividing world markets equitably among all exporting nations," says an Associated Press report from Little Rock, Arkansas. "A State Department inquiry regarding desirability of an international agreement, Mr. Wallace said, has brought favorable replies from all important cotton-exporting countries. Until such an international agreement is put into operation, the secretary declared it was necessary for the United States to embark on a program of subsidizing exports to regain this country's 'fair share' of world markets and to help dispose of a record surplus. The plan is designed to expedite foreign sales of cotton, which reduce surplus stocks of about 14,000,000 bales, of which 11,400,000 are stored under Government loans to producers.

"In a speech prepared for a meeting sponsored by farm organizations and the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Wallace advanced a five-point program for solution of the perplexing cotton problem. In addition to the international agreement, the program includes: First, continuation of the loan as a protection for the farmer's price of cotton; Second, continuation of benefit payments to build and protect both incomes and soil resources; Third, increased efforts to expand domestic consumption; Fourth, maintenance of our fair share of the world market -- now, by the necessary export subsidy program; as soon as possible, and for the long run, by an international agreement on cotton and by the reciprocal trade agreements program; Fifth, attainment of a more nearly fair and equitable division of the national income with farmers through a processing tax, or its equivalent, to serve as a continuing source of revenue. Mr. Wallace explained that his advocacy of the subsidy proposal contradicted views he expressed at Fort Worth, Texas last fall. 'Since that time conditions have changed,' he said. He contended that there was 'no clear evidence' at that time that the Government loan of 8.3 cents a pound would hold the price of American cotton above world prices and thus discourage exports.

"Challenging critics to submit a plan that 'will do the job as well and at less cost,' the Secretary declared 'apparently the real objective' of administration critics was 'destruction of the entire agricultural program.' 'High tariffs on manufactured products, discriminatory freight rates and price-determining powers of the great corporations,' Mr. Wallace declared, 'have combined to put cotton into a more difficult situation than any other major farm product except possibly wheat. Before the World War cotton farmers received 3 percent of the national income. Last year, even with benefit payments added in, they received only 1.4 percent. There are a million more people living in cotton farms of the South today than before the war.' Denying the bounty plan was 'dumping,' the Secretary said it was designed to 'offset the loan by payment on our exports sufficient to make American cotton as competitive with foreign cotton as our present supplies warrant.'"



Pulp from Pine Trees      "The potential market for pulpwood products in the United States is good," says F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, in a short article in the New Republic (May 31). "The South is accessible by rail and water to principal consuming markets. It has labor -- much of which is idle because of the distress in cotton. Limestone and sulphur for chemical processing are available in local deposits. The wood of young, quick-growing, second-growth Southern pines is of excellent color, relatively free from resinous heartwood. Logging is easy. The industry has been benefited by the technical advances worked out by the Herty Laboratories, the Forest Products Laboratory of the United States Forest Service and other agencies. Southern pine is suitable for pulping. All this is encouraging to the paper industry and to the South. But a note of warning is needed. The modern paper plant requires a heavy investment. To safe-guard it and its labor, stability is essential. And to assure stability, there must be an adequate, continuous supply of wood. If Southern forests are protected from fire, treated as a crop and managed on sustained yield, the Forest Service believes they can meet this essential requirement. But if the forests are 'mined' on a quick-liquidation basis, then capital, labor, dependent communities and social structures must inevitably suffer. Land owners and mill men must improve the fire protection and forest-management practices if the second-growth pine stands of the South are to be utilized to the best advantage..."

Uniform State Standards      The committee on agriculture of the National Conference on Inter-State Trade Barriers reported that lack of standards was causing much of the confusion and discrimination against products of the several states. "Confusion, misinformation, and discriminations against products of the several States are caused in large measure by the lack of uniform standards of grading, packing, marking, and labeling of products," the report said. "The barriers to interstate trade so built have become, in many instances, a direct burden both upon the producers of wholesale products, and the consumers of such produce. This condition can be remedied only by the action of the several States in the adoption of like standards of grading, packing, marking, and labeling." The committee recommended that the Association of State Marketing Officials confer with the U. S. Department of Agriculture "in the drafting of model legislation to make uniform the law of the several States concerning the grading, packing, marking, and labeling of food products and foods according to standard grades, accepted as such by the United States Department of Agriculture." (Industrial Standardization, May.)

Foreign Trade      United States foreign trade, which expanded considerably in March, declined in April, the Department of Commerce has announced. Exports, amounting to \$230,947,000, were down 14 percent from March and 16 percent below April a year ago, while the April imports of \$186,195,000 showed a decline of 2 percent from March, although they were 16 percent larger than April a year ago. (Press.)



Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds reported  
May 25 without amendment H. J. Res. 171, authorizing acceptance  
from Alameda, Calif., of certain lands on Government  
Island for use of Forest Service and Bureau of Public Roads (S. Rept. 499).

Committee to Audit and Control Contingent Expenses of Senate re-  
ported without amendment H. Con. Res. 23, to increase the appropriation  
for the Joint Committee on Forestry by \$7,000.

Both Houses received from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury a  
proposed bill to provide additional compensation for employees killed or  
injured in law-enforcement work: to Senate Com. on Education and Labor,  
House Com. on Judiciary.

House Committee on Mines and Mining reported without amend-  
May 25 ment H. R. 5132, to amend the mining laws applicable to  
the Bonito River watershed in the Lincoln National Forest,  
New Mexico (H. Rept. 692).

Adjourned until Monday, May 29.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Senate Committee on Appropriations reported with amendments  
May 26 H. R. 6260, War Department civil appropriation bill  
(S. Rept. 503).

Began debate on S. 1869, to protect interstate commerce from the  
dangers of unsound financial structures and to establish improved pro-  
cedures and standards for financial rehabilitation of railroads in inter-  
state commerce.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

World Wheat A smaller world wheat crop, due to acreage reductions  
Estimate and reports of generally unfavorable growing conditions,  
is in prospect, according to the Bureau of Agricultural  
Economics. The agency said this would partly offset the much larger  
carryover in sight next July as compared with last July. The Bureau es-  
timated that the acreage of wheat for harvest this year in the 23 coun-  
ties reporting would be about 192,000,000 acres, compared with 206,000-  
000 acres last year. With the winter wheat crop indicated on May 1 at  
544,000,000 bushels, the total wheat crop this year would be about 700,-  
000,000 bushels, the Bureau continued. A crop of this size, together  
with the prospective carryover of about 275,000,000 bushels, would give  
a total wheat supply for 1939-40 of slightly less than 1,000,000,000  
bushels compared with a 1938-39 supply of 1,084,000,000 bushels.

Science and The leading article in Dynamic America (May) is  
the Law "Science and the Law," by T. Swann Harding of the Depart-  
ment. In his opinion, "the law, in spite of itself, tends  
archaically to concentrate upon and lend importance to non-essentials.  
This results in the perpetuation of known frauds and in cumbersome con-  
trol of dangerous agencies. On the other hand, science can aid law in  
the solution of these problems. The necessity is for administrative  
boards of scientifically and technically qualified experts the fact find-  
ings of which will be regarded as conclusive by the courts..."



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Vol. LXXIII, No. 42

Section 1

May 31, 1939

## WEATHER BUREAU APPOINTMENT

Professor Carl G. A. Rossby, native of Sweden and internationally known meteorologist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will become assistant chief for research and education, a new position in the U.S. Weather Bureau, it is announced by F. W. Reichelderfer, the bureau chief. A 3-year leave of absence from the institute has been obtained by Prof. Rossby. He is expected to assume his new duties in June. Educated in the Scandinavian countries and in Germany, Professor Rossby is famous for application of advanced meteorological methods to weather forecasting. In 1928 he organized the model aero-weather service for southern and central California. (Washington Post.)

## TOBACCO SORTING

The careful sorting of tobacco before it is offered for sale has been paying dividends at the southern Maryland tobacco auctions. Sales at Upper Marlboro and Hughesville, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics said yesterday, are revealing to growers the extent to which sorting means higher prices for their tobacco. Since the auctions started in early May, the bureau specialists have been collecting information on prices paid at these markets. They report that a considerable number of baskets offered for sale are mixed. Some are so badly mixed that they are withdrawn from the sale to protect the growers, and are then resorted and sold as separate lots. A charge of 25 cents per 100 pounds is made by warehouses for sorting the badly mixed lots. Though this charge is a reasonable one, the bureau points out that farmers can save this expense by careful sorting of their tobacco at their barns. (Washington Post.)

## FARM PRICE INDEX UP

The price report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for the month ended on May 15 noted a slight rise in the general level of farm product prices, reversing the trend of the previous four months. The general level of local market prices in mid-May was up 1 point from the previous month. At 90 percent of prewar the May 15 index was 2 points below that of the corresponding period in 1938. Advances in grains, cotton and fruits more than offset declines in dairy products and other important commodity groups. (New York Times.)



Recreation  
in National  
Forests

John Sieker, Forest Service, in June Farmer's Digest, describes recreational opportunities in the national forests. "On every one of the 158 national forests," he says in part, "there are several public camp and picnic grounds which are provided with simple conveniences and necessities for the use of campers and picnickers. These camp and picnic grounds are open to the public during the season of use, without charge, except that at some of the larger areas where there are heavy concentrations of people a nominal charge is made for special services such as cut firewood, hot showers, use of bathhouse, etc. Even on these acres, however, where special services are charged for, use of the area is free to persons who do not desire the special services... Besides camp and picnic grounds the national forests offer other forms of recreation. On many forests wild scenic back country has been set aside as wilderness areas in which the works of man are kept at a minimum. Roads and man-made improvements are prohibited and these areas are accessibly only by horseback or afoot... In recent years the Forest Service has improved many winter sports areas where snow conditions are satisfactory for skiing, snowshoeing, tobogganing, and kindred sports. On many of the forests private companies have been permitted to build lodges and resorts so that recreationists who wish to enjoy the forest in greater comfort than camping affords may do so. These resorts are all regulated by the Forest Service so that the services and prices charged are within reason... Those wishing to take advantage of the recreation opportunities of the national forests should get in touch with one of the nine regional foresters in the continental United States..."

Safe Sorghum  
for Feed

Writing on prussic acid in sorghums as a possible source of poisoning in livestock, C. J. Franzke, South Dakota Agricultural College, in the Farmer's Digest (June) reports that "since prussic acid is a heritable factor, it is possible to develop sorghum strains low in this deadly acid. The results proved so satisfactory that in 1935 a low acid Dakota Amber cane (Number 39-30-S) was released to farmers. This strain was the first of its kind to be released in the United States and possibly in the world. It is the hope of the agronomy department at State College to breed and release only sorghum varieties or strains for fodder and grain production low in their respective prussic acid content. The production of low acid sorghums that mature uniformly, harvested at the matured stage, and well-cured in the shocks will eliminate considerable forage poisoning. The farmer will have some assurance when he produces low acid sorghums as compared to mixed varieties. Uniformity in maturity and low acid content are the greatest factors in eliminating this dangerous risk."

Frozen Food  
Industry

Fortune (June) contains an article on quick frozen foods, illustrated with photographs. It describes industrial freezing methods, lockers for frozen foods and distribution of these products, and forecasts the future of the industry.



**Grain Dust  
Explosion**

Grain and Feed Journals (May 24) in an item on the recent wrecking of a grain elevator in Chicago, says: "Calumet A, like all the other elevators, was of frame construction, iron clad, all having been erected during the closing decade of the last century. Every explosion of grain dust has found alarming expression in two or more explosions. As a rule, the first explosion is of small force, but of large importance because the first explosion dislodges so much dust accumulated on all ledges of the elevator. The following explosions are far more powerful and more destructive. Observing engineers, recognizing the destructive agent with which they must contend, are now constructing all walls of cupola, Texas and basement of light material so as to offer small resistance to the force of the explosions and thus permit an expansion that will reduce the strain on the supporting frame of the structure. Glass and envelope tile can be replaced with little expense. Then, too, every effort is being made to ventilate leg casings and bins to the outside, not only to reduce resistance to the explosive gases, but to permit fine dust to reach the outside. While these precautions will, no doubt, help to minimize the possible damage and reduce dissemination of the fine dust, a dust collecting system that captures the dust at every point where grain is turned over and removes it immediately, thereby preventing the accumulation of the explosive dust, greatly reduces the hazard..."

**State Trade  
Barriers**

"...It was the intention of the framers of our Constitution that commerce between states should move freely without interruption or hindrance," says an editorial in Farm and Ranch (June). "That is no longer the case. There are states that disregard both the letter and spirit of the Constitution, and for selfish purposes, interfere with the free flow of commerce from one part of the country to another. Ports of entry have been established at boundary points in many states where trucks and buses are halted, inspected and charged excessive fees. Gasoline tanks are measured and additional gas taxes assessed for all gasoline over a certain quantity, although a tax had been paid elsewhere. Extra license plates are required by some states, and driver's licenses issued by one state are not always recognized in another. There are states that refuse to buy materials for public use which are produced in other states without securing a 5 to 10 percent concession. Under the guise of protecting the health of the public, laws are passed requiring inspections of milk and cream coming from other cities to give a monopoly to producers within a given territory. Several states have passed laws taxing the food products of other states which may come into competition with their own products. Truck load maximums vary from 7,000 pounds in Texas to 72,000 pounds in Illinois, and so throughout the country the free flow of commerce between states is obstructed..."

**Rented Cows**

A livestock dealer of Shelby, North Carolina, rents out cows to small farmers for from 75 cents to \$1.50 a week, with the renter providing the feed. When the cow goes dry, the dealer replaces her with a fresh milker. (Country Home Magazine, June.)



Senate Passed S. 1869, to protect interstate commerce from  
May 27 the dangers of unsound financial structures and to establish improved procedures and standards for financial rehabilitation of railroads in interstate commerce.

Recessed until Monday, May 29.

The House was not in session.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

World Poultry Congress The American Poultry Journal (June) says that the program committee of the World Poultry Congress, under the direction of Prof. H. H. Alp, has arranged a six-day program. "Each afternoon, conferences will be held under the guidance of the extension poultrymen from one of the state universities. These discussion groups will study feeding and management, breeding, marketing, and disease. Thirty specialists will cover six subjects during the morning sessions of the Congress. Five different angles of the questions under discussion each day will therefore be shown. The program for the short course according to subject is as follows: Monday, July 31, poultry feeding; Tuesday, August 1, poultry breeding; Wednesday, August 2, poultry management; Thursday, August 3, hatchery management; Friday, August 4, hatchery business and outlook; Saturday, August 5, poultry and egg marketing."

Roanoke Farms Survey Graphic (June) contains "Homesteaders--New FSA Project Style," by Charles R. Walker. "Farm Security Administration's experiment in resettling southern tenants on land of their own, described by a recent visitor to several projects," says a note, "demonstrates that, given a boost by government, America's poorest pioneers can rise from relief to self-support." The author describes particularly the FSA project at Halifax, North Carolina--Roanoke Farms.

Civil Service Examination The Civil Service Commission announces the following examination; No. 52, unassembled; Associate Household Equipment Specialist, \$3,200, Assistant Household Equipment Specialist, \$2,600, Bureau of Home Economics. Applications must be on file not later than (a) June 26, if received from States other than those named in (b), (b) June 29, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

National Income The Commerce Department estimates that national income in the first four months of 1939 totaled \$21,561,000,000, a gain of 2 percent over the corresponding period of last year. Included in national income are all payments to individuals -- wages, salaries, dividends, interest, income from enterprise and relief payments. Income received by employees in the first four months of 1939 was 4 percent above the total for the like period last year. (A. P.)



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Vol. LXVIII, No. 43

Section 1

June 1, 1939

**WORLD COTTON CONFERENCE** Proposing a broad, long-term attack on the problem of surplus cotton, the United States yesterday called an international conference of cotton-exporting countries to discuss the possibility of world-wide control of production and marketing. The conference will be held in Washington, beginning September 5. Acting on behalf of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, the State Department invited Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, India, Mexico, Peru, Sudan, Soviet Russia, France and Great Britain, the latter two for their cotton-exporting colonies. Officials of the Department of Agriculture emphasized that the conference would be of an "exploratory" character only. (New York Times.)

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**EASTERN ROADS CUT R.R. FARES** The eastern railroads announced yesterday that they would make drastic reductions in round-trip coach and Fullman rates, which will go into effect this month. The tickets would be good for 60 days. All the important eastern lines, except the New York, New Haven & Hartford, will reduce coach rates on a round-trip basis. The charges will be as follows, except for New England: coaches, return rate reduced to 2 1/4 cents a mile for distances up to 100 miles, diminishing thereafter every 50 miles until a minimum of 1.7 cents for 901 miles and more is reached; tickets good in the purchase of upper Fullman berths, round trip, at rates scaling down to a minimum of 2 43/100 cents for 901 miles and more; all other Fullman accommodations, round trip, scaling down from 3 cents a mile to 2.7 cents for 901 miles and more. (New York Times.)

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**SOUTHERN ROADS ASK FARE CUT** The Interstate Commerce Commission announced yesterday the southern railroads had filed a tariff for a 10 percent reduction in round-trip coach fares. Unless suspended by the commission, the tariff will become effective June 1. The coach fare in the South is 1 1/2 cents a mile but there is no round-trip fare. The southern territory is generally south of the Potomac and Ohio Rivers and east of the Mississippi. (A.T.).

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**PHILIPPINE TRADE BILL** Under a measure passed yesterday by the Senate and sent to the House, the Philippine Islands in 1946 would automatically become independent and outside the tariff walls of the United States. The measure would substitute in the case of several important Philippine exports a gradually declining quota of free quantities to be admitted to this country. (New York Times.)

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Conservation                      Writing under the title, "The Land and Its People,"  
of Our Land                      in Scientific Monthly (June) H. H. Bennett, Chief of the  
                                        Soil Conservation Service, says in part: "While to-day  
the emphasis is on action by public agencies to assist the actual users  
of the land, the need for effort along other lines is no less acute.  
There is need for a thorough understanding of modern techniques on the  
part of agricultural workers everywhere. We have developed a new kind  
of land survey, for example -- a survey that is actually an inventory of  
the physical characteristics and condition of the land. It shows the  
dominant conditions of slope, soil and erosion, as well as the use being  
made of the land -- factors we must know in order to determine the kind  
of treatment each parcel of land requires if it is to remain permanently  
in beneficial use. These new surveys are of great significance to-day,  
when the matter of land use has come so importantly to the foreground of  
agricultural action. They constitute the very basis upon which any sound  
readjustment of land use for the conservation of physical resources and  
the betterment of human welfare must be made. Agricultural workers  
everywhere, I hope, will acquaint themselves with the principles used in  
making these surveys, and will equip themselves to interpret and put to  
practical use the knowledge made available. There is need also for re-  
search into many of the complex aspects of the problem; into the econom-  
ics and the sociology of land reform as well as the purely physical prob-  
lems of readjustment. Likewise, there is need for continuing educational  
effort so that the gains made by action and research will not be lost as  
time goes on. People must be taught to think as a matter of course in  
terms of good land use if what we accomplish now is to be permanently  
effective."

Education                      "The most important factor in forest fire control is  
in Forest                      attitude, Dean Paul W. Chapman, of the University of  
Fire Control                      Georgia College of Agriculture, recently stressed before  
                                        a meeting of the Georgia Forestry Association," says an  
editorial in the Atlanta Constitution (May 25). "Quoting figures of the  
United States Forest Service to show that this state ranks second in the  
nation in annual losses from forest fires, Dean Chapman stated half of  
the fires are caused by deliberate burning of the woods; incendiarism  
and carelessness account for almost 75 percent of the losses. He drew a  
conclusion: that these causes may be summed up as representing an atti-  
tude on the part of the people. In this connection he pointed out that  
fire prevention measures will never be very effective until the people  
of this state are determined forest fires should be prevented. When such  
an attitude is developed, then genuine progress in eliminating forest  
fires will be made. To attain this sort of right thinking on the part of  
the public, Dean Chapman advocated public school courses in forestry as a  
means of developing appreciation of the forest resources of Georgia. The  
theory here is that appreciation of the forests as a great and important  
natural resource will go a long way in bringing about a change from the  
present careless attitude. Besides the public school courses, Dean Chap-  
man also suggests that much needs to be done in education of adult laymen."



FSA Clients                      The regional office of the Farm Security Administra-  
Repay Loans                    tion said recently a survey showed that Arkansas, Louisiana  
and Mississippi were making good and that "approximately 95  
percent of the first-year borrowers paid their first-year instalments when  
due," according to an Associated Press report in the Memphis Commercial  
Appeal (May 26). The survey covered about 1000 one-time sharecroppers,  
tenants, farm laborers and former landowners, white and negro, in the three  
states, who availed themselves of Federal assistance to acquire their own  
farmsteads. T. B. Fatherree, regional chief of the tenant purchase, ex-  
pressed belief that all the borrowing families in the three states would  
be in position to make their next payments, due in December. "We feel  
that these families will be able to meet their obligations and make a good  
profit because they know where they are going," said Mr. Fatherree. "Guided  
by county FSA supervisors, these families have made and are carrying out  
farm plans designed to insure sufficient income to meet their payments and  
give them a more comfortable living. They are producing their own food and  
feed and at the same time retaining the fertility of their soil. They have  
sufficient land in cash crops to take care of their loan payments. They  
are not depending on a one-crop system of farming, but are diversifying  
their crops. Not only that, but they are using their spare time devising  
means of increasing their farm income."

Starter                      Better Crops With Plant Food (May), commenting on an  
Solution                    article by C. B. Sayre, New York Experiment Station, in  
for Plants                  Farm Research (April) "One and a Half Tons of Tomatoes from  
Fertilizer Costing 48 Cents," says, quoting from the article:  
"It seems surprising that such small quantities of nutrient materials used  
in a field already well fertilized would make such a striking increase in  
the yields of tomatoes. The most probable explanation is that this "starter"  
solution was applied in a particularly available form just at a critical  
time in the growth of the plants.' What may develop into new and very im-  
portant methods of fertilizer application is the indication that plants need  
pick-me-ups. In the case above, where the solution consisted of plant-food  
elements dissolved in water and applied at the time the plants were trans-  
planted to the field, the author explains that at transplanting the plants  
are low in minerals and shorn of most of their root system. Consequently,  
the application of a correctly balanced, readily available nutrient solution  
revives and stimulates the plant, thus enabling it to withstand better the  
shock of transplanting and to become established quickly and grow vigorously  
from the time it is transplanted. It is emphasized that this nutrient  
'starter' solution is only a supplementary treatment to be used in trans-  
planting tomatoes and is not recommended as the sole fertilizer applica-  
tion. To carry the vines through the season to produce a heavy yield of  
tomatoes requires liberal application of fertilizer to the field. Undoubt-  
edly we shall hear much more of nutrient solutions, which enable the plant  
to get plant food before the soil can fix it..."



Senate                      Messrs. Russell, Hayden, Tydings, Bankhead, Smith,  
May 29                      Nye, and McNary were appointed Senate conferees on H. R.  
5269, agricultural appropriation bill. The House con-  
ferrees are Messrs. Cannon of Mo., Tarver, and Lambertson.

Considering bills on the calendar, passed the following: S. 1031, to amend the act of June 15, 1935, relating to the marking of packages containing wild animals and birds; H. J. Res. 189, to define the status of the Under Secretary of Agriculture (this joint resolution will now be sent to the President); H. R. 913, to prohibit the unauthorized use of the name or insignia of the 4-H clubs (this bill will now be sent to the President); H. R. 3646, to authorize certain officers and employees to administer oaths to expense accounts (this bill will now be sent to the President); H. J. Res. 171, authorizing acceptance from Alameda, Calif., of certain lands on Government Island for the use of the Forest Service and Bureau of Public Roads (this joint resolution will now be sent to the President); H. Con. Res. 23, to increase the appropriation for the Joint Committee on Forestry by \$7,000; S. 2330, authorizing cooperation between the United States and other American republics.

The following bills were passed over after brief discussion: S. Res. 107, opposing sales of American cotton during the present world crisis to foreign purchasers below the cost of production; S. 2270, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to purchase refuge lands in S. C. for perpetuation of the eastern wild turkey and to provide pure-blood stock for restocking; S. 229, to authorize the withdrawal of national forest lands for the protection of watersheds from which water is obtained for municipalities; H. J. Res. 188, authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to designate the Director of Finance to sign requisitions for disbursing funds; S. 162, wool products labeling bill.

Adjourned until Wednesday, May 31.

House                      Received a message from the President requesting that  
May 29                      Congress not consider H. R. 3838, which would render legal  
in D. C. contracts for maintenance of resale prices, un-  
til the TNEC report.

Received from the President a proposed provision regarding an existing appropriation for the Civilian Conservation Corps for 1940 (H. Doc. 303); to Com. on Appropriations.

Received from the Commerce Department statements of expenditures and descriptions of exhibits of the agencies participating in the Pan American Exposition at Tampa, Fla., 1939; to Com. on Foreign Affairs.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Rural Sales                      Daily sales of general merchandise in small towns  
Increase                      and rural areas in April were 11 percent greater than in  
the corresponding month last year. Leading the increase  
was the South, where purchases gained 9 percent compared with the Middle  
West, up 11 percent; the far West, up 8 percent, and the East, up only  
2 percent. (A.P.)



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Section 1

June 2, 1939

## ROCHESTER FOOD STAMPS

A Rochester report by the Associated Press says distribution of relief checks yesterday brought the first "repeat" customers for food stamps, redeemable for groceries under the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation experiment in distribution of the nation's surplus foodstuffs. In addition to the 10,000 families eligible to buy the stamps for the second time, there are an estimated 2,500 to 3,000 persons receiving old-age pensions, aid for the blind and for dependent children receiving relief checks who are eligible to participate. Through May, about 5,200 persons purchased \$39,000 in orange stamps and received free \$19,500 blue stamps. About \$30,000 of stamps have been redeemable by grocers, bankers and wholesalers, who in turn are repaid by the government from customs funds.

## FLOOD CONTROL FUND VOTED

The Senate yesterday, avoiding a record vote, overrode its Appropriations Committee and restored \$50,000,000 which the committee had cut from a House bill appropriating \$305,000,000 for the civil functions exercised by the War Department. This bill finances primarily river and harbor improvements and flood control work. (New York Times.)

## GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

The House passed yesterday the Senate-approved bill providing that the government reorganization orders Nos. I and II, regrouping federal agencies, shall take effect on July 1. A House amendment, which will require Senate action, provides that nothing in the reorganization orders or in the measure shall be construed as continuing any agency or function beyond the time when it would have terminated without regard to the plans. (Press.)

## WAGES AND HOURS BILL

The House Labor Committee yesterday approved three major changes in the bill already reported to amend the wages and hours act. The changes are designed to meet the appeals of five leading farm organizations. Chairman Norton said she thought they would satisfy the farmers. One exempts from the hours provision of the law employees of canneries which can fresh fruits and vegetables only in the harvesting period. Another exempts from the wages and hours sections employees "engaged in...preparing...but not canning fruits and vegetables...". A third exempts from the hours section employees of terminal establishment handling a large variety of agricultural products. (New York Times.)



Courses in Conservation      Texas Weekly (May 27) reports that a dozen Texas colleges and universities will offer courses in conservation of natural resources this summer. "This program," it says, "is an outgrowth of a course in conservation inaugurated last summer at North Texas State Teachers College, which, as the first course of its kind ever offered in the United States, attracted widespread attention. Some 750 teachers and prospective teachers attending N.T.S.T.C. enrolled for credit in the course, and several thousand out-of-school visitors heard the featured lectures...The course in conservation of natural resources to be given by the twelve Texas institutions of higher learning is expected to reach no less than 6,000 regularly enrolled students. And it is estimated that a minimum of 25,000 to 30,000 visitors will attend some of the lectures to be given at the various institutions... Four Federal and five State agencies will cooperate in this educational program. The Federal agencies are the Soil Conservation Service, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Mines, and the Department of Biological Survey. State agencies cooperating in giving the course this year include the State Board of Water Engineers, the State Railroad Commission, the State Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, the State Department of Forestry, and the State Department of Health...Sixty-eight State and Federal lecturers will appear on the complete program, in addition to an estimated forty or more local faculty members of the colleges sponsoring the full course. The outside lecturers will include forty-five speakers in the soil and water division, two speakers on minerals, five on forestry, one on chemistry, nine on human resources, and seven on wildlife..."

Tenn. Quick Frozen Foods      Quick frozen products taken to market by the Tennessee Valley Authority-University of Tennessee experimental barge last year brought four cents a pound more than the nearest competition, according to Dr. R. Brooks Taylor, connected with the department of agricultural industries of the T.V.A. and consultant of the Tennessee Experiment Station. He declared that were the barge to make but one trip during the season to St. Louis, Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City and Pittsburgh \$9,000 would be saved over the next cheapest means of transportation. The barge has a capacity of 350,000 pounds but only 200,000 was loaded last year. Dr. Taylor likewise reported that there are 78 products that can be grown in Tennessee and fresh frozen. However, before a large industry can be built up better warehouse and transit facilities must exist. The pilot freezing plant built by T.V.A. and the University of Tennessee at Cleveland, Tenn., will be operated by farmers this year. (Food Field Reporter, May 29.)

Humidity for Poultry      Broilers fatten more rapidly during hot months if the humidity of their feeding rooms is raised, according to Kansas State College. Birds kept in a saturated atmosphere gained 20 percent more weight in a 4-week period than those in a room whose humidity was 70 percent. (Country Home Magazine, June.)



Nutrition  
Problems

Gove Hambidge, of the Office of Information, is author of a paper on "Nutrition as a National Problem" in the Journal of Home Economics (June). Answering the question, how can we get what we need nutritionally, he says: "There are three barriers that may stand in the way of such a goal. One barrier, which might prove insurmountable, we do not have in America. So far as capacity for food production is concerned, it is perfectly feasible for all the people in this country to achieve a high nutritional standard... We do have the two other barriers that stand in the way of achieving a higher standard nutritionally, and it is up to the American people as a whole to decide whether those barriers are insurmountable. One is economic. We can produce enough food of the right kind for a well-nourished population; we do produce enough for a better nourished population than we now have; but not enough people have enough income to buy the food... There are two ways of attacking the difficulty -- to increase employment and raise incomes until people have enough to buy the requisites of good nutrition, or to lower the price of these requisites until they are within people's reach... In saying that raising incomes or lowering prices are the two ways of attacking the economic barrier to good nutrition, I do not mean to imply that they are alternatives in any strict sense. There is no reason, for example, why more efficient methods of production or processing or marketing should not go along with higher incomes. The third barrier to good nutrition is not economic. It is the barrier of ignorance, habit, inertia. Nutritional levels in the United States by no means coincide with economic levels... Studies made by the Bureau of Home Economics show that a few families with very little to spend for food do manage to have good low-cost diets... But even at more than adequate economic levels, an astonishing number of people do not eat as well as they might. Overcoming this third barrier is a matter of continued education through all the well-known channels..."

Poetry of  
Rural Life

Caroline B. Sherman, Bureau Agricultural Economics, writing in Rural America (May) on "The Poetry of Rural America," says in one paragraph: "Lately two book-long poems of absorbing interest to all agricultural workers have been published. They are modern to an advanced degree in both outlook and method. The River by Pare Lorentz and The Land of the Free by Archibald MacLeish are implicit and moving indictments of America's long neglect of valuable resources on the one hand and neglect of inarticulate groups of people on the other. Both are done in the manner of the sound track of a movie and both are supplied with striking photographs of the candid and realistic school. The River was first a motion picture and then a book. The Land of the Free is first a book. A little later these may be recognized as fore-runners of a new era in rural poetry and one calculated to result in action."



Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys reported with-  
May 31 out amendment S. 2237, to amend the Taylor Grazing Act to  
provide for an advisory board of local stockmen in each  
district (S. Rept. 505).

House Committee on Government Organization reported with  
May 31 amendment S. J. Res. 138, providing that reorganization  
plans Nos. I and II shall take effect on July 1, 1939 (H.  
Rept. 714).

Committee on Agriculture reported with amendment H. R. 4638, autho-  
rizing the Secretary of Agriculture to prepare plans for the eradication  
and control of the pink bollworm (H. Rept. 709).

Committee on Agriculture reported without amendment H. R. 4637, to  
amend section 243 of the Penal Code of the United States, ... relating to  
the marking of packages containing wild animals and birds and parts there-  
of (H. Rept. 710).

Committee on Agriculture reported with amendment H. R. 112, to facil-  
itate control of soil erosion and flood damage on lands within Ozark and  
Ouachita National Forests in Arkansas (H. Rept. 713).

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

FSA Long- "One of the finest things the Farm Security Admini-  
Term Lease stration is doing is to develop and to encourage the use  
of long-term written leases," says an editorial in the  
Progressive Farmer (June). "Regardless of how much we might like to see  
it, tenancy is not going to be eliminated, even with all the help toward  
home ownership that is being given or may be given in the near future.  
If we face the facts we are obliged to conclude that the smart thing is  
to eliminate the unsatisfactory conditions that have gone along with  
tenancy -- and worst of these is our usual plan of one-year agreements.  
Such a short-time basis discourages practically everything that we con-  
sider good farming, good citizenship, and happy living. Suppose a tenant  
has only a one-year lease and probably doesn't have that made definite  
before October or November. How can such a man grow winter legumes, or  
develop a pasture and livestock program, or raise winter feed, or supply  
his family with some fruit? Is it remarkable that the one-year lease  
leads to soil mining and soil erosion, lack of interest in school, church,  
and community, and perennial dissatisfaction among both landlords and  
tenants? Somebody has said, 'Three moves are equal to one bankruptcy.'  
As a Farm Security official said recently: 'Everything you can mention in  
a farm management way, except varieties and fertilizers, hinges on the  
type of lease.' As a result of improved leases, better food supplies, and  
improved financial status as a whole, school attendance of children of  
families on rehabilitation has increased from 75 percent in 1936 to over  
90 percent in 1939."



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Section 1

June 5, 1939

## 1938 FARM INCOME

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimates that American farmers had a gross income in 1938 of \$9,220,000,000 from farm production and government subsidies. This compared with \$10,350,000,000 estimated for 1937, \$5,562,000,000 for 1932--the lowest for what the bureau called the "depression" period--and \$12,791,000,000 for 1929. The 1938 income included \$7,538,000,000 cash for farm marketings, \$482,000,000 from government benefit payments, and \$1,200,000,000 worth of products retained for farm consumption. The bureau said the greater portion of the decline in gross income from 1937 to 1938 was due to a decrease in receipts from crops, particularly from grains, fruits, vegetables and cotton. The gross income from all crops declined 18 percent, while that from livestock and livestock products dropped less than 9 percent. Government benefit payments, on the other hand, were 31 percent larger in 1938. (A.F.).

## PROMOTION SYSTEM

The advisory Council of Personnel Administration, set up by executive order to map a new deal in federal employee affairs, has recommended a detailed promotion system for the government service, stressing an open competitive examination method for filling vacancies by advancement from within, to be enforced by stopping payrolls in case of violations. Announcement of the plan was made yesterday by Council Chairman Frederick W. Davenport, who published a letter to Civil Service Commission President Mitchell containing the recommendations. Principal recommendations of the council were: clear definition of the term "promotion" to include advancement from one class of position to another, regardless of whether the position is covered by the classification act (this was taken to mean that the promotion system should apply to the entire government service; promotion should be on a competitive basis, providing as far as possible for persons already in the service to fill vacancies in higher jobs. (Washington Post.)

## FOREST LANDS

The purchase of 243,926 acres of land in 24 states and Puerto Rico for incorporation in 48 National Forests and Purchase Units has been approved by the National Forest Reservation Commission, announces the President of the Commission, Secretary of War Woodring. These lands will be administered by the Forest Service.



Credit for  
Forestry

The June issue of American Forests says in an editorial: "In this issue, A. H. Mussman (Bureau Agricultural Economics) and Conrad H. Hammar (Missouri College of Agriculture) present a plan to provide credit for permanent forestry (Providing Credit for Forest Restoration). Basic in their proposal is a scheme to regiment private forests into districts of about 200,000 acres each for management by the United States Forest Service. Private persons would continue to own the land, but the government would pay development and protection costs, reimbursing itself from later sales of stumpage and guaranteeing to owners a predetermined share of income. With such a management set-up, the authors presuppose that the federal government could safely proceed to extend credit to these forest conservation districts and to individual owners. To handle such loans efficiently and at low costs, they outline with considerable detail an organization and method for extending forest credits. Viewed simply as an agency for safely and efficiently extending loans to forest owners, this proposed credit structure deserves careful study. Something like it may be useful even though the lending of money for private forestry be begun on a very small scale, as many believe it should. The regimentation feature, however, is questionable, both as to its practicability and its need..."

Cypress Tree  
Development

Development of a cypress tree to take the place of the famed Monterey cypress, which may be doomed in California, is the work of Dr. Carl Wolf of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Orange County. The Monterey cypress is being destroyed by the Coryneum canker, and Dr. Wolf is endeavoring to find some type of interior cypress which will withstand the ravages of the canker. The canker began to work on the Monterey cypress about 15 years ago and has completely removed it from many sections of the State. Cypress trees which have been inoculated with the disease under laboratory conditions, and which have shown the most resistance, are the Piute cypress from the mountains of Kern County, the Forbes cypress of the Orange County foothills, and the Sargeant cypress from the Interior coast range. More than 2000 of these trees are now growing in the hilly terrain of the botanic garden and several have made rapid and satisfactory growth without any evidence of the disease to date, it is reported. (California Conservationist, May.)

Water Culture  
for Crops

In an article comparing water culture and soil as media for crop production, in Science (June 2) D. I. Arnon and D. R. Hoagland, of the California College of Agriculture, say in the concluding paragraphs: "The suggestion that important amounts of food could be produced economically in small-scale installations for home use has no sound basis, because of high costs of the installations and technical requirements for the successful use of the method. The continued importance of the use of water-culture technique, as one important



method of scientific experimentation in investigations of problems of plant nutrition, needs to be stressed. The development of large-scale water-culture techniques enhances the usefulness of the water-culture method as an experimental tool, by widening its scope of application to problems which involve growing plants to maturity on a large scale and under controlled conditions of nutrition."

Experiment Stations "To the question 'Have you ever visited your State Experiment Station or experiment farms or fields?' asked recently by the National Fertilizer Association to 9,395 farmers in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the Carolinas, 2,515 replied 'Yes,' and 6,880, 'No' -- over 73 percent had never seen with their own eyes what the agricultural experiment stations are doing," says an editorial in the Southern Planter (June). "Of course, a much larger percentage have learned through the farm papers, the county agent system, and the local leaders of the splendid results obtained by the experiment stations. There are six principal experiment stations -- one at each Land-Grant College -- and 33 branch stations in the Southern Planter territory. All of these stations will hold during the next few months, field days, farmers' picnics or visiting days at which the experiments will be explained and the results analyzed...Plan right now to visit your nearest experiment station this summer and go over all the work that is underway there. Good roads and the automobile have annihilated the distance between your farm and the experiment station..."

Government Administrators The average head of a Federal Government bureau is 58 years old, has served as a chief for sixteen years, was chosen from the ranks of governmental employees, attended an institution of higher education and has been in governmental service as a career, it is revealed in a study of "Federal Administrators," just published by the Columbia University Press. Sixty-two units of the Departments of State, Labor, War, Treasury, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Navy, Justice and Postoffice were surveyed by Professor Arthur W. Macmahon and John D. Millett, of the Columbia department of government, both of whom are former members of President Roosevelt's committee on administrative management. The report indicates the existence of a head civil servant in many of the bureaus who is the American equivalent of a permanent under-secretary. (Press.)

FSA Loan for Bull "Good dairy sires may be obtained with a Farm Security Administration community service loan," says the Progressive Farmer (June). "The soundness of the plan is well illustrated by a Cherokee County, Texas, farmer who borrowed \$157 for a purebred Jersey bull last year. Repayment was spread out in 4 equal annual installments, the last one due October 1, 1941. If it is desirable to obtain another sire before that date, the borrower may sell the animal and liquidate the debt from the proceeds. Forty-one of his neighbors agreed to make use of the bull. All payments due on this loan have been made..."



Senate Passed H.R. 6260, War Department civil functions ap-  
June 1 propriation bill. This bill contains \$3,000,000 to be  
transferred to this Department for surveys on flood con-  
trol projects.

Committee on Civil Service reported without amendment S. 1610, to  
prevent discrimination against graduates of certain schools, and those  
acquiring their legal education in law offices, in making appointments  
to government legal positions (S.Rept. 533).

Adjourned until Monday, June 5.

House Rejected H.R. 6466, Townsend pension bill, by a vote  
June 1 of 97 to 302.

Agreed to the conference report on S. 572, providing  
for the purchase of strategic and critical military materials.

House Passed 2314, to establish the position of Under Sec-  
June 2 retary of Commerce (this bill will now be sent to the  
President). Mr. Crawford claimed that the cotton export  
policies of Secretaries Wallace and Hopkins conflict.

Committee on Public Lands reported without amendment H.R. 168, to  
add certain lands to the Cleveland National Forest, Calif. (H.Rept. 715);  
with amendment, H.R. 2548, to include certain lands in the Pike National  
Forest (H.Rept. 716); and S. 26, to empower the President to create new  
national forest units and add to national forests in Montana (S.Rept. 720).

Committee on Agriculture reported without amendment H.R. 4998, to  
amend the packers and stockyards act by authorizing the Secretary of Ag-  
riculture to prescribe rates to be observed, as both maximum and minimum  
to be charged, and by forbidding persons furnishing stockyard services  
from collecting more or less than the rate prescribed (H.Rept. 724).

Committee on Agriculture reported without amendment S. 1031, to  
amend the Lacey act, requiring the marking of packages containing wild  
animals and birds, to eliminate the requirement that packages containing  
furs, hides, or skins be marked to show contents and the requirement of  
marking packages containing wild animals or birds or bird eggs from  
foreign countries (H.Rept. 725).

Committee on Public Lands reported without amendment H.R. 5958, to  
amend the Taylor grazing act by providing for local grazing district ad-  
visory boards (H.Rept. 719).

Received a proposed bill from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury,  
to amend the act authorizing payments to employees on a mileage basis  
when they use their own vehicles (5 U.S.C. 73a); to Com. on Expenditures  
in Executive Departments.

Adjourned until Monday, June 5.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

June 6, 1939

## SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS MILK AGREEMENTS

"By one vote the Supreme Court yesterday upheld the federal-state milk marketing agreement for the New York metropolitan area and divided 6 to 3 in upholding the constitutionality of a similar agreement for the Boston area," says Felix Belair, Jr., in the New York Times. "Both agreements were based on the same federal statute. In the 5 to 4 decision on the New York case the court overruled an opinion by Judge Frank Cooper of the Federal District Court for the Northern New York District that an order by Secretary Wallace enforcing the agreement violated the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. The majority opinion was read by Justice Reed...In the Boston case, in which the constitutionality of the statute rather than the enforcement order and marketing agreement were challenged, Justices Roberts, Butler and McReynolds dissented from the majority finding, contending that the agricultural marketing act of 1937 constituted an unwarranted delegation of legislative power to the Secretary of Agriculture. Justices Butler and McReynolds further contended that Congress lacked authority 'to manage private business affairs.' The majority opinion declared that there was no doubt of the Congressional authority to regulate the marketing of milk in the New York area, nor of the propriety of delegating that authority, within limitations, to the Secretary of Agriculture..."

## STATE BARRIERS ASSAILED

"A vigorous attack on state legislators who set up barriers impeding the free flow of goods between states was launched yesterday by J. C. Aspley, president of the National Federation of Sales Executives, in its annual convention," reports William J. Enright in the New York Times. "Mr. Aspley assailed these legislators for causing a 'throwback' to Colonial restraint' on the freedom of trade between the states and for increasing the difficulties of sales executives...and pointed out that 15 states have a tax on goods going into them, 21 states give preference to residential sellers and some states have taxes on commercial travelers. 'There are 409 trade laws in various states that should be abolished,' he said, 'if the United States is again to become the greatest market for free trade.'..."

## REORGANIZATION

President Roosevelt's two reorganization plans were assured yesterday of going into operation July 1. The House adopted a Senate amendment to the effect that no temporary agency should have its life extended beyond the original span. (Press.)



**U.S.D.A. Studies Watersheds** Eighteen critical watersheds of the Nation are the object of study by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Soil Conservation Service, and the Forest Service.

These studies are conducted under the national flood control act of 1936, to determine how land resources<sup>in</sup> those watersheds may contribute, through development and management, to the control of floods. Eventually the surveys will cover 200 major watersheds. Preliminary examinations have been made in 75. The 18 watersheds are as follows: The headwaters of the Merrimac rivers, New England; Youghiogheny, Pennsylvania and West Virginia; Coosa, Georgia; Codorus, Pennsylvania; Upper Yazoo, Mississippi; St. Francis, Missouri; Kickapoo, Wisconsin; Washita, Oklahoma; Trinity and Concho, Texas; Fountain Creek and Cherry Creek, Colorado; Upper Gila, Arizona; Rio Puerco, New Mexico; Boise, Idaho; Los Angeles, San Gabriel, and Santa Ana in Southern California; Muckingum, Ohio, and upon three streams near Buffalo, N. Y. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics is concerned with the economic and social aspects, estimates of flood damage and proposed preventive measures. The Soil Conservation Service deals with the effect of new farming practices on the soil, run-off, and related matters. The Forest Service is concerned with forest cover, management of National Forests in the watersheds, and associated factors.

**Proving Beef Sires** A simple method of "proving" beef sires similar to the plan used in "proving" dairy sires has been developed by beef cattle specialists of the Department. By this method young bulls may be proved by their first calves. The two plans are alike in that the worth of the sire in both cases depends on his progeny's record-of-performance. Proving of beef sires has required study of many factors affecting the calf from the time of birth until it is slaughtered, say W. H. Black and Bradford Knapp, animal husbandmen who have studied sire performance for 8 years with 4 beef breeds at three experiment stations. The first essential in proving the beef sire is a minimum of five steer calves. Because the dam of one calf may give more milk than another, the test is begun shortly after weaning time and the calves weaned at the same weight regardless of age. In the Department's tests all calves were started on the test at 500 pounds and slaughtered at 900 pounds. Neither the time spent in gaining the 400 pounds, nor the age of the calf when the test began, are considered. Each calf was fed in individual self-feeders, to check the amount of feed consumed. Each was allowed to eat all it wanted. Only calves from purebred dams of the same breed as the bull were used. How the record-of-performance tests may eliminate some sires with blue ribbon ancestry was shown<sup>at</sup> a Bureau of Animal Industry station. Here, calves from two bulls of prize winning ancestry were placed on a corn and alfalfa ration--the corn valued at 60 cents a bushel and the alfalfa hay at \$20 a ton. The cost of the 400 pounds gain for calves of one sire was \$31.66 per calf less than for the other sire.



**Tax Policy  
Aids Farms**

"The State of North Carolina has adopted a tax policy in regard to real estate that is worthy of emulation by other states," says an editorial in the Progressive Farmer (June). "Incorporated into the state's tax statutes is the following declaration of policy: It is hereby declared to be the policy of this State so to use its system of real-estate taxation as to encourage the conservation of natural resources and the beautification of homes and roadsides, and all tax assessors are hereby instructed to make no increase in the tax valuation of real estate as a result of the owner's enterprise in adopting any one or more of the following progressive policies: (1) Planting and care of lawns, shade trees, shrubs, and flowers for non-commercial purposes. (2) Repainting buildings. (3) Terracing or other methods of soil conservation, to the extent that they preserve values already existing. (4) Protection of forests against fire. (5) Tree planting for reforestation purposes (for 10 years after planting). Farmers and farm women often say: 'If I beautify my place, terrace my land, or make fire lanes to keep fire out of my woods, my taxes will be raised because of it.' Now this can no longer be said of North Carolina."

**Leafhoppers  
on Peanuts**

Dr. F. W. Poes, of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, in an item in the Southern Planter (June) on the control of potato leafhoppers on peanuts, says that "in experiments during 1937 and 1938 at the experimental farm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Arlington, Virginia, where peanut leafspot was almost entirely absent, it was found that the leafhopper population declined rapidly on peanuts after August 10. In spite of this fact, considerable loss in yield of nuts was recorded on the untreated plots in these experiments as compared to the yield obtained from the treated plots. Because of the greatly increased yields of nuts obtained by the use of Bordeaux mixture or sulphur on peanuts, it was considered probable that these materials not only controlled the leafhopper and leafspot, but had a direct stimulating effect on the plants. Greenhouse tests in the absence of the leafhopper or leafspot, however, showed no significant difference between the weights of treated and untreated plants. It is, therefore, evident that the greatly increased yields obtained from the treated outdoor plots were due mainly to the control of these pests..."

**Civil Service  
Examinations**

The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations; No. 53, assembled; Senior Field Assistant (Entomology), \$2,000; Junior Field Aid (Entomology), \$1,440; Under Field Aid (Entomology), \$1,020; Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine; Applications must be on file not later than the following dates -- (a) July 3, if received from States other than those named in (b), (b) July 6, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.



**Prairie States Forestry Plan** The New York Times, in a report on the Prairie States Forestry Project of the Department, says that with the 1939 spring plantings recently completed, there are now 127,000-000 trees from three to thirty-five feet high growing in such locations from the Canadian border to Texas that they are already sheltering, or soon will be, some 20,000 farms. The Forest Service believes the surface has only been scratched, but the program already means the existence of 12,000 miles of living greenery protecting the soil and the crops and bringing comfort to perhaps 150,000 farm dwellers. When farmers benefited by the project were asked, in official questionnaires, to set a monetary value of the trees to them, many replies struck a common note. "I cannot place a value, as I certainly would not be without a grove," said one. "It is impossible to make an estimate; for comfort and pleasure alone they are worth more than dollars and cents," said another. Yet measurable economic benefits have accrued. Scattered farmers in the Plains area who have matured areas or groves, individually planted years ago, have listed many of them. The list includes protection to livestock during blizzards, protection to new-born winter cattle, reduction in stock-feeding costs because feeders in the open are protected, savings in the cost of household fuel both through shelter of the trees and the wood they provide, protection of buildings, crops and orchards from destruction by windstorms and tornadoes. In addition to all this, these once treeless regions have attracted birds, which destroy harmful insects and provide song and the pleasure of hunting and eating in the open season.

**Locker Meat Handling Charges** In "Cutting Meats for the Locker Plant," a paper in Refrigerating Engineering (June) Roy W. Snyder, of Texas A. and M. College, lists meat cutting and handling charges which he feels are fair. These are: "Chilling, cutting, wrapping, labeling, dating, freezing, and placing meat in storage, 1-1/2 to 2¢ per lb.; wrapping, freezing, and placing in locker, 1¢ per lb.; grinding hamburger and sausage, 1¢ per lb.; grinding meat and seasoning, 1-1/2¢ per lb.; sharp freezing fruits and vegetables, 1¢ per lb.; purchasing of carcasses wholesale for patrons, 1/2¢ per lb."

**"Jobs for All"** Plan Age (June) contains a 15-page review of "Jobs for All," by Mordecai Ezekiel, of the Office of the Secretary. The reviewer, N. I. Stone, discusses the book under the headings: underwriting production and processing taxes; prices under the plan; the ever-normal warehouse; organic differences between AAA and industry authorities; the alternative to a regimented economy.

**Fat, Oil Consumption** Marked changes in domestic production and consumption of fats and oils in recent years are reviewed in the Fats and Oils Situation issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Compared with the pre-drought period -- 1929-33 -- major changes are smaller production of lard, increase in compounds and vegetable cooking fats, material decrease in the use of coconut oil in margarine, and decided increase in the production and consumption of soybean oil. (The Creamery Journal, June.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXIII, No. 47

Section 1

June 7, 1939

## FOOD STAMPS IN DAYTON

Federal, state and city officials in Dayton, Ohio, declared yesterday that the plan to increase food consumption of the needy and to absorb farm surpluses was off to an excellent start, according to a report to the New York Times. A total of 1,589 heads of families received stamps good for \$14,547 worth of food day before yesterday. The sales exceeded those on the opening day of the plan in Rochester. Ralph S. Headley, in charge in Dayton for the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, declared the first day successful and stated that the corporation has set aside ample funds for redeeming grocers' claims immediately. Sales of orange stamps, good for all kinds of food, totaled \$6,367. With these stamps were issued blue stamps, good for surplus foods, in the amount of \$3,183.50. Recipients on direct relief received \$4,997 worth of blue stamps, on the basis of 50 cents per week per member of a family.

## BIG GAME CENSUS

An average of more than five big game animals for every square mile in National Forest boundaries has been reported by the Forest Service in its annual big game estimates for 1939. The total of big game in the National Forests of the United States as of January 1, 1939, including Alaska National Forests, was 1,842,000, an increase of 6 percent over the 1,740,000 reported on January 1, 1938. The 1939 big game population nearly trebles that of 1924, when 693,000 big game animals were reported in the National Forests. "Throughout the entire United States, about one-third of all big game is on National Forests," says Dr. H. L. Shantz, chief of the division of wildlife management of the Forest Service. "In the western part of the country, more than three-fourths of the big game animals range on the National Forests for a large part of the year."

## FOREIGN TRADE

The value of exports of merchandise, including re-exports, from the United States in April, as reported yesterday by the division of foreign trade statistics of the Department of Commerce, was \$230,947,000, compared with \$247,472,000 in April 1938. Total of imports of the United States in April was \$186,195,000, compared with \$159,827,000 in April 1938. (Press.)



**Carbon Dioxide Storage** Ice and Refrigeration (June) contains a paper by F. W. Allen, of the California Experiment Station, reporting fruit handling and storage investigations of the station. Summarizing studies with carbon dioxide, he says: "Carbon dioxide atmospheres, which are most efficient at relatively high storage temperatures, will not generally supplant low air temperatures. With fruits, however, which are susceptible to injury from low temperatures and with those which subsequently ripen with better dessert quality when stored at higher temperatures, carbon dioxide storage appears promising. From the viewpoint of the cold storage operator, perhaps the chief disadvantage in offering this type of service is the difficulty in making his storage rooms essentially air tight. The necessary expense incurred in this connection will in time, however, be offset by a lower refrigeration cost, and possibly by a slightly higher storage charge. In fruit shipping, although we employ precooling, temperatures in refrigerator cars while in transit are in many instances sufficiently high that considerable ripening occurs in our more perishable fruits during a period of eight to ten days. If refrigerator cars can be made sufficiently tight to hold a concentration of approximately 10 percent of CO<sub>2</sub> during the period of shipment a somewhat more mature (and better quality) product might be shipped, and ripening in transit and the development of mold growth materially lessened."

**Cooperative Locker Plants** "A dozen cooperative farm cold storage plants are now being successfully operated in the State of Mississippi," says Ice and Refrigeration (June). "Others are planned, some with locker room storage. Ammonia coils are used largely for refrigeration. The plants range in cost from \$25,000 to \$50,000. The idea for the cooperatively operated plants was first advanced by Mississippi State College at Starkville in which title to the properties invests. They were built and financed largely by the Works Progress Administration. The State College leases the plants to county cooperative but the Farm Extension Service, affiliated with the College, and farm agents, largely supervise their operation...The cooperative plants do not act as marketing agents for farmers, simply curing their meats and holding it for them until desired for their own use or for sale. Some 2,000,000 lbs. of meats have been handled since the first of the plants began operating late in 1937. In addition to turning out cured hams, bacons, salt pork, fresh sausage, smoked sausage and pickled pig feet, beef and other meat products, the plants provide storage facilities for eggs, butter, fresh produce, seeds and fruits, enabling farmers to hold their products and to take advantage of market changes and seasonal fluctuations in prices. The plants encourage farmers to depend less on cotton as a money crop and more on food products."



### Improvement of Wheat

Business Week (June 3) in an item on the Canadian crop-testing plan, says in part: "The planners make an appeal to the eye with actual demonstrations. In Kansas the procedure is to obtain a hundred samples of wheat in every wheat county, each sample from a different farm, plant them in a test plot adjacent to a similar planting of certified seed of some standard variety which serves as a comparison. A wheat field day is held at each county plot immediately before harvest, and experts class each sample as A, B or C. Farmers having wheat grading C (badly mixed) are encouraged to obtain A (pure) or B (slightly mixed) for seed, thus improving quality of Kansas wheat and flour. Besides the Kansas, Canadian, and North-western Crop Improvement associations, similar organizations are now operating in Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Indiana. Most are supported jointly by the grain and milling industries..."

### Waterfowl Inventory

Wild ducks in the United States are still increasing although the total is still far below that of a decade ago, the Biological Survey has announced. The survey recently compiled a report of continuous studies of the waterfowl situation during the last year, including the annual mid-winter inventory in January. The inventory, which was estimated to cover about 25 to 30 percent of the continent's waterfowl, showed about 14,500,000 birds, compared with 12,500,000 last year and 9,500,000 in 1937. These results, according to the Biological Survey, indicate that it is possible to maintain an adequate continental supply of migratory waterfowl. The requisite is sound management, the survey says; restoration and conservation of water fowl habitat in breeding, migration and winter ranges, with enforced regulations on hunting. Intelligent management, the bureau says, requires careful investigations as a basis for drafting hunting regulations. Survey officials assert that waterfowl populations are still far from recovery. Though more ducks were noted this year than last, the ratios for all species were not the same. Observers reported decreases in a few species. Important gains were noted in mallards, black ducks, pintails, baldpates and scaups. Particularly encouraging, the survey said, was a substantial gain in the number of redheads. Geese showed a decrease, a small increase in Canada geese being offset by a considerable decrease in blue geese. (New York Herald Tribune, June 5.)

### Farmer Cooperatives

There are more than 15,000 farmer-owned and farmer-controlled cooperative associations and mutual companies in the United States, according to the Farm Credit Administration. It is estimated that 3,000,000 persons hold memberships in the organizations and at least 500,000 more patronize them without being members. More than \$2,000,000,000 worth of farm products and farm supplies are sold annually by farm cooperatives. Some of these farmer businesses are "big business" for thirty-four associations report annual sales in excess of \$10,000,000, and 295 run over \$1,000,000 each. (Baltimore Evening Sun, May 29.)



Senate                      Agreed to the conference report on S. 572, providing  
June 5                      for purchase of strategic and critical military materials  
                              (this bill will now be sent to the President).

Received from the Treasury Department a proposed bill to amend the law authorizing use of private vehicles for official travel on a mileage basis; to Com. on Expenditures in Executive Departments.

S. J. Res. 135, to reduce expenditures of the Government by 10 percent, was taken from the table and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

House                      Considering bills on the consent calendar, passed  
June 5                      the following: H. R. 5835, to authorize the President to  
                              render closer and more effective the relationship between  
the American republics. H. R. 161, authorizing Hawaii to sell public lands to citizens who possess the qualifications of homesteaders and who have received loans under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act. H. R. 4683, authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to prepare plans for eradication and control of the pink bollworm. H. R. 4637, to amend the Lacey Act, relating to the marking of packages containing wild animals and birds. H. R. 112, to facilitate control of soil erosion and flood damage on lands within the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests, Ark. H. R. 5132, to amend the mining laws applicable to the watershed of the Bonita River in the Lincoln National Forest, N. Mex.

Received from the President a veto message on H. R. 2378, to prohibit the exportation of tobacco seeds and plants except for experimental purposes.

Committee on Ways and Means reported without amendment H. R. 6635, to amend the Social Security Act (H. Rept. 728). Committee on Public Lands reported with amendment H. R. 2752, to include certain lands within the Kaniksu National Forest (H. Rept. 737) and without amendment H. R. 5747, to authorize addition of lands to the Wenatchee National Forest (H. Rept. 746). Committee on Civil Service reported without amendment H. R. 4190, authorizing unclassified laborers to occupy classified positions after five years' service (H. Rept. 741). Committee on Civil Service reported without amendment S. 1582, to authorize the President to bestow a Meritorious Service Medal upon civil-service officers and employees of the U. S. (H. Rept. 743). Committee on Roads reported with amendment S. 1109, to amend the act authorizing certain toll bridges to be made free, by providing that funds available under such act may be used to match regular and secondary Federal-aid road funds (H. Rept. 745)

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Museum Plants              Rare plants from Guatemala's tropical jungles and  
                              high volcanic slopes, some of them representing species  
hitherto unknown to science, have been brought back to the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago by Paul C. Standley, leader of the Sewell Avery Botanical Expedition. Total number of specimens, Mr. Standley estimates, is between 25,000 and 30,000. (Science Service.)



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Section 1

June 8, 1939

## N.Y. MILK REGULATION

The federal program regulating the handling of milk in the New York metropolitan area will be resumed effective July 1, it was announced yesterday by Secretary Wallace after a conference between officials of the department and Holton V. Noyes, New York State Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets. The order has been in suspension since February 1. Mr. Wallace's statement was based on the decision of the Supreme Court upholding the validity of the order.

Governor Lehman of New York yesterday signed the Nunan bill designed to overcome constitutional objections raised early this year by the State Supreme Court in holding invalid the state's milk control law. The Governor pointed out that although the price regulation in the state law applies only to intra-state milk, authorization also is provided for cooperation by the state with the federal government under the agricultural adjustment act. (New York Times.)

## RETIREMENT BILL REPORTED

The House Civil Service Committee yesterday favorably reported a new retirement bill for government employees as a substitute for the Neely bill. This abolishes the 62-year group and makes retirement mandatory at the ages of 65 and 70. It moves the 62-year group up to 65 years. It makes all employees eligible for optional retirement at the age of 60 after 30 years of service. It increases deductions from government workers toward the retirement fund  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 percent, where the Neely bill proposed 4 percent. It retains the provision for joint survivorship annuity the same as in the Neely bill. (Washington Star.)

## FOREIGN SERVICE

The statement that President Roosevelt's government reorganization plan is effective in promoting business was made yesterday by Edward J. Noble, executive assistant to Secretary Hopkins. He spoke principally on that phase of reorganization under which the foreign services of the Departments of Commerce and Agriculture are transferred to the Department of State. The effect, he said, will be to place the Department of Commerce in a position to draw freely not only upon its own former representatives abroad, but also upon the field services of the Department of State. (New York Times.)



Forest Industries                      Development of forest products industries to a point where 9,000,000 acres of government-owned reserves in the south will pay their own way and perhaps net Uncle Sam profit was set as a goal recently by the Forest Service, from which supervisors of 11 southern states met in annual meeting, presided over by Joseph C. Kircher, regional forester, says a report in the Atlanta Constitution (May 26). Already in operation in some states, the program calls principally for sale of matured timber to privately owned sawmills adjacent to national forests. Additional revenue is expected from naval stores, pulpwood and recreational facilities. This year, the government is expected to gross more than \$600,000 from sales of products in its southern forests. And still, the government will have its forest reserves. Newest development in the program is a mill at Clayton in the Chattahoochee National Forest in northeast Georgia. The area adjacent to the mill yields about four or five million feet of timber per year without depleting reserves. The mill takes some three million feet a year, employs about 25 men and is sure its timber resources will be sustained over a period of years.

Farmers and Newspapers                      "The National Fertilizer Association, a non-profit organization of more than 350 manufacturers with approximately 50,000 local agents, recently conducted a survey to determine the sources of information on which farmers chiefly rely," says an editorial in the Hartford Courant (May 28). "Twenty-five questions were asked of more than 32,000 farmers by 650 interviewers. One of these questions was, 'Do you take a daily newspaper?' A tabulation of the answers shows that in thirty-five States seven out of ten of the farmers personally interviewed are subscribers to a daily newspaper and that more than half of them take a weekly. In ten States, the daily newspaper is read by more than 90 percent of the farmers. Ten years ago the Association made a similar survey which revealed that then there were only two States in which nine out of ten farmers read the daily press regularly. The country over, there has been a gain of 7 percent since that time in farmer-readers of daily newspapers. This is attributed to the fact that farmers sense the importance not only of keeping abreast of better agricultural methods but also of being informed with respect to local and national political situations..."

Alfalfa                      "Orestan alfalfa is a new strain developed in Oregon Resists Wilt which is highly resistant if not completely immune to bacterial wilt," says John C. Burtner, Oregon Agricultural College, in Capper's Farmer (June). "Every available variety of alfalfa was planted in nursery plots on badly infected land in 1931 and 1932. By 1934 marked difference in wilt resistance was noted, though only one, No. 19301, combined wilt resistance with outstanding quality. The original nursery planting is now eight years old with still no loss from wilt. While Orestan (Ore for Oregon and Stan for Turkestan) probably has no advantage over other alfalfa except its resistance to wilt, it appears equal to any known commercial variety for yield and quality..."



**Fertilizer Consumption**            The National Fertilizer Association has published a report showing the relation between farm income and fertilizer consumption for the past 10 years in the various states. The expenditures for fertilizer have been relatively lower in recent years than farm income or fertilizer tonnage, thus reflecting the decline in fertilizer prices which are about one-fourth lower than they were in 1929. Farmers are now able to use as much fertilizer as they did before the depression while making a smaller cash outlay. One of the factors which determines the amount of fertilizer used in a state is its type of agriculture. Obviously a state which derives most of its agricultural income from crops which need to be fertilized will use much more fertilizer than a state with an agriculture based largely on livestock production. In 1938 American agriculture as a whole received 44 percent of its income from crops and 56 percent from livestock and livestock products. In the five states which use half of all the fertilizer used in this country--the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama--81 percent of farm income was received from crops and only 19 percent from livestock. In the other states with high ratios, such as Maine, New Jersey, and Virginia, crop income is important and the crops grown there require heavy applications of fertilizer. At the other extreme South Dakota, with the lowest ratio of expenditures to income, receives only about a fourth of its farm income from crops and more than half of its crop income is accounted for by wheat. (The American Fertilizer, May.)

**Chemurgic Commission**            Ohio Farmer (June 3) reports in an editorial that Governor Bricker of Ohio recently announced the appointment of an Ohio Chemurgic Commission of 25 members. "This commission will study the possibilities of increasing Ohio farm income through industrial utilization of Ohio farm crops. Soybeans at present are Ohio's greatest chemurgic crop. Production is making a marked increase and indications are that this increase will be absorbed through the many processing plants Ohio now has. Both oil and meal have possibilities in industry, largely through use in paints and plastics. What other non-food uses there are for the products of the soybean is one of the subjects which this commission will undoubtedly explore through the research institutions of the state...If the commission does its duty it will focus attention on the need for greatly extending the farm research facilities of the State."

**Michigan**            "Testing for Bang's disease in cattle has been resumed throughout Michigan following the recent signing by Governor Dickinson of the bill providing state funds to match federal money for the payment of indemnity costs on condemned animals," says an editorial in the Michigan Farmer (June 3). "It is regrettable that the legislators saw fit to reduce the appropriation called for originally, as this means a slowing down of our progress against the disease due to the fact that we are just beginning to work in the more heavily populated cattle areas. However the amounts provided are still large enough to continue testing at a healthy rate inasmuch as the federal government takes care of all expenses except 50 percent of the indemnity costs."



Senate Began debate on S. 591, making amendments to the  
June 6 United States Housing Act. Mr. Wagner submitted an amendment which he intends to propose to the bill, providing for housing projects for farm families of low income "under loan, annual contributions, and capital-grant contracts permitting...public housing agencies...to rent or sell rural housing to farmers," which was printed in the Record together with correspondence between Administrator Straus and Secretary Wallace favoring the amendment.

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendment S. 478, to provide for more expeditious payment of amounts due to farmers under agricultural programs, and with amendment S. 231, to authorize acquisition of forest lands adjacent to and over which highways, roads, or trails are constructed or to be constructed with Federal funds in order to preserve or restore their natural beauty (S. Rept. 555).

House Began debate on H. R. 6635, making amendments to the  
June 6 Social Security Act.

Committee on Agriculture reported, without amendment H. R. 6538, 6540, and 6541, and, with amendment H. R. 6539, amending the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 with regard to tobacco marketing quotas (H. Repts. 779, 781, 782, and 780).

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

World Citrus A review of citrus production throughout the world,  
Situation published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, states that such production has increased at the average rate of about ten million boxes a year during the last decade. Oranges, including mandarines and tangerines, account for about eight million boxes of this annual increase, while grapefruit production in the United States, the principal producing country, has more than trebled during the period. Lemon production has been declining since 1932, owing largely to reduced output in Italy, which has more than offset the expansion in the United States. This country has seen by far the heaviest increases in citrus production, with about three times as many oranges and about seven times as much grapefruit on the markets as there was twenty years ago. We now produce nearly one half of the world's citrus fruits. The volume of citrus exports is substantially greater than formerly, but exports have not kept pace with domestic production. An exception is seen in lemons, exports of which have been slightly ahead of advances in production. (Texas Farming and Citriculture, June.)

Receipts from Receipts from the sale of principal farm products in  
Farm Products April were larger than in April last year by 7 percent in the West North Central Region and 6 percent in the Western States. For the other four major geographical divisions, decreases ranged from 5 percent in the North Atlantic to 17 percent in the South Central Region.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

June 9, 1939

**RURAL HOUSING AID VOTED** The Senate voted overwhelmingly yesterday to extend the subsidized home-building program for low-income groups to rural areas. This was accomplished by the insertion under cloture of an amendment into a bill to add \$300,000,000 to the bonding authorization of the United States Housing Authority, and thereby double the capital available for "slum-clearance" operations. The amendment, by Senator Wagner, was without comparison in recent legislation, due to the fact that it not only "authorized and directed" the U.S.H.A. to design a program "for families of low income in rural areas," but went on to authorize that agency to expend any proportion of the new capital it may see fit on this work. The bill was sent to the House for consideration. (New York Times.)

**RADIO WEATHER PRINTER** Radio experts of the Civil Aeronautics Authority yesterday inspected an automatic printer system for radioing weather reports to airplane pilots. The unit is being operated experimentally on a laboratory ship which came to Washington to allow C.A.A. officials to inspect it. Officials said the system would bring visual reports instead of spoken or coded words to the pilots. (A.F.).

**COTTON AT SEASON HIGH** An increasingly tight contract situation sent prices on the (New York) Cotton Exchange into new high ground for the season yesterday. The close was at gains of 2 to 9 points. Middling spot quotations rose to 10 cents a pound for the first time since August 1937. With less than 2,000,000 bales of free cotton now estimated in the country outside the government loan and mill stocks, interests with short obligations were aggressive buyers of both July and October contracts, which imparted strength to the whole market. At 9.30 cents July contracts showed a gain of \$8 a bale from low levels reached earlier in the year and closed 29 points under the average southern spot market. (Press.)

**RECORD RAYON OUTPUT** World production of rayon, including yarn and staple fiber, in 1938 again broke all records, totaling 1,948,-045,000 pounds or an increase of 7 percent over 1937, according to figures in the Rayon Organon, published yesterday by the Textile Economics Bureau, Inc. The United States retained its hold on third place as a world producer. (Press.)



Cooperative  
Refinery

"The big consumers co-operative at Kansas City has financed the building of the first co-op refinery in the United States," says an editorial in the Farmer-Stockman (June 1). "This refinery will be built in western Kansas, will cost \$700,000, will use 3,000 barrels of crude every 24 hours and turn out 15 carloads of products a day. The consumers co-operative is owned by 440 local co-ops which marketed last year 6,101 carloads of gasoline, kerosene and tractor fuel. The new refinery will supply 40 percent of the needs of these local co-ops. These service co-ops which handle supplies of all kinds used by farmers are developing fast in other parts of the United States, but lagging far behind in the southwest. Here in Oklahoma and Texas we have been much too slow in taking hold of the form of co-operation which can make substantial savings to farmers year in and year out."

Iowa Weed  
Eradication

"Iowa's new weed law provides for a weed-worrier in every county, and even in every township," says Wallace's Farmer (June 3). "The county board of supervisors selects men for this job, and may use money out of county funds to pay necessary per diem wages and to purchase the needed equipment and materials. In 1937, the first year of operation under the new law, sixteen counties in Iowa had county weed commissioners. Last year, there were thirty-three. For 1939, fifty counties will have systematic programs...About the first of June notices are sent to the owners of land on which bad weeds are known to exist. In accordance with the law, these notices specify the proper time for destroying the weeds and the recommended manner of destruction, and state that unless proper steps are taken, the weed commissioners 'shall cause said weeds to be destroyed and the cost thereof to be taxed to the owner of the property'...During June, July and September, the weed men operate a chlorate spraying rig, both along highways and on private land. Any land-owner may contract to have the spray rig work for him at 20 cents per gallon of solution used..."

Tobacco  
Seed Bill

An Associated Press report in the Richmond Times Dispatch (June 6) regarding the recent veto by President Roosevelt of a bill to prevent the export, except for experimental purposes, of tobacco seed or plants, says Mr. Roosevelt asserted that "it would appear to be virtually impossible to effect sufficient control over the production and handling of tobacco seed to assure against the export of small quantities of seed required." The President said, too, that small quantities of seeds exported for bona fide experimental purposes in a few years could produce enough seed to sustain a large commercial tobacco production. Since seed of American tobacco plants could be produced in foreign countries, the President said it was not believed that a ban on exportation "could have any material effect upon the production of American types of tobacco in foreign countries, and consequently, on the competition encountered by American tobacco from foreign tobacco of similar types in world markets."



**Autos Imperil Wildlife** "No one can drive the paved roads of this country to-day without realizing the enormous toll that the automobile collects from wildlife," says an editorial in Field and Stream (July). "The figures presented in 'The Toll of the Open Road,' which appeared in the last issue, are astounding. While the rabbit may rank first in numbers lost, there is practically no species of small game that does not suffer. Song and insectivorous birds are killed by the thousand each year during the migratory seasons. There is little we can do about it, for often, no matter how careful a driver may be, birds and small animals will dash in front of a car. I believe that the number of birds and animals killed purposely by automobilists is negligible. We can at least drive a little more carefully at times of year when east and west highways are being crossed by migrants and through such sections of the country where game animals are likely to cross the highway..."

**Migrant Farm Labor** The Farmer-Stockman (June 1) in an editorial on migrant farm labor, reports that migrant farmers "live under deplorable conditions in California, camping wherever they find a camping spot. One agency alone has tried to help the situation, namely, the Farm Security Administration. It built camps to take care of a few of these families. But most of them still drive the highways in search of such farm work as the state affords. Now the same development is taking place in Texas where it is estimated 125,000 migrants winter along the southern line of that state. The Farm Security Administration has purchased 160 acres on which will be built the first camp for these laborers. This will be constructed at Raymondsville, will cost \$250,000 and will accommodate 343 families. To be constructed are 50 three-room houses, 249 one-room metal shelter units and 44 platforms for tents. Three other similar camps will later be built at Weslaco, Robstown and Sinton. These camps are not being built in an effort to establish a new social order but to relieve acute human distress and to salvage something from the many children of these families whose homes for the past few years and months have been a ramshackle automobile or truck."

A report in the Los Angeles Times (May 28) says that coordination of effort among State and Federal agencies dealing with migrant agricultural labor in California, by means of a coordinator and committee of those agencies, recently was recommended to Governor Olson at a conference on agricultural labor. Committee reports recommending action on matters of wages, working conditions, housing, recreation and schooling of migrant agricultural laborers and their families were adopted at the conference. The group went on record as being in favor of setting wage scales in advance of starting crop operations and of maintaining persons on relief who decline to accept jobs at lower than the specified wage level.

**Labeling** J. W. Sale, senior chemist of the Food and Drug Administration, advised the Flavoring Extract Manufacturers' Association recently that the simplest terms should be used in stating the ingredients of products on labels, as required under the new Federal food, drug and cosmetic act. (New York Herald Tribune, June 7.)



Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with-  
June 7 out amendment H.R. 2179, to ratify and confirm interest  
rates on loans made from the revolving fund authorized  
by section 6 of the agricultural marketing act of June 15, 1929 (S.Rept.  
564; and with amendment S. 1955, to authorize the Secretary of Agricul-  
ture to delegate certain regulatory functions and to create the position  
of Second Assistant Secretary of Agriculture (S.Rept. 656).

Committee on Appropriations reported with amendments H.R. 6392, State,  
Justice and Commerce appropriations bill (S.Rept. 568).

Committee on District of Columbia reported without amendment H.R. 5987,  
permitting drivers of government vehicles stationed outside of D.C. to  
drive such vehicles in D.C. without D.C. drivers' permits (S.Rept. 574);  
and with amendment S. 1575, to provide that the annual registration of  
motor vehicles in D.C. shall be for the period April 1 in each year to  
March 31 in the succeeding year (S.Rept. 584).

Committee on Commerce reported without amendment S. 1108, to restrict  
the exportation of certain Douglas fir peeler logs and Port Orford cedar  
logs (S.Rept. 563); and with amendments S. 1852, to promote the free flow  
of domestically produced fishery products in commerce (S.Rept. 583).

House Passed S. 1031, to amend the Lacey act, relating to  
June 7 the marking of packages containing wild animals and birds  
(this bill will now be sent to the President); H.R. 6525,  
Coffee federal seed bill; and H.R. 4998, to amend the packers and stock-  
yards act of 1921.

Committee on Rules reported a rule providing for consideration of  
H.R. 960, authorizing the President to extend the civil service notwith-  
standing existing statutory barriers.

Committee on Flood Control reported with amendment H.R. 6634, amend-  
ing previous flood-control acts, authorizing certain preliminary examina-  
tions and surveys for flood control, etc. (Rept. 799).

Received a message from the President recommending legislation to  
authorize \$5,000 for participation in the International Statistical In-  
stitute in the United States in 1940; to Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Congress The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry re-  
June 8 ported with amendments S. 1850, to aid the states and ter-  
ritories in providing retirement of employees of land-grant  
colleges.

The House passed H.R. 57, to provide for the use of net weight in  
interstate and foreign commerce transactions in cotton, for standardiza-  
tion of bale covering for cotton, etc.

Received a supplemental estimate from the President of \$119,599,918.05  
to provide for restoration of the capital impairment of the Commodity  
Credit Corporation; to Committee on Appropriations (H.Doc. 317).

Committee on Expenditures in Executive Departments reported with  
amendment H.R. 6614, to amend the Government Losses in Shipment Act  
(H.Rept. 806).

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)



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Section 1

June 12, 1939

## WHEAT CROP FORECAST

The Agriculture Department forecasts a winter wheat crop of 523,431,000 bushels, based on June 1 conditions, and a spring wheat crop of from 145,000,000 to 170,000,000 bushels on the prospective plantings reported in March. Winter wheat production was forecast a month ago at 543,928,000 bushels, last year's crop was 686,637,000 and the average production in the 10 years 1928-37 was 560,160,000. The indicated production of spring wheat, based on the prospective plantings, compared with 244,164,000 bushels produced last year, 189,852,000 in 1937 and 206,494,000 in the average for the 10 years 1927-36. The acre yield of winter wheat, indicated from June 1 conditions, is 13.4 bushels, compared with 13.8 a year ago and 14.5, the 10-year average. (A.F.).

## FARM TREE PLANTING

Farmers have more than doubled tree planting activities since 1935 when the Forest Service began distributing trees to farmers in 41 states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, the Department of Agriculture announces. During 1938 a total of 55,359,728 trees were distributed under the Clark-McNary law, as compared with 26,150,197 in 1935, 35,600,000 in 1936 and 41,700,000 in 1937. The young trees are seedlings and transplants. The law provides for the allotment of federal funds for this purpose to states matching the appropriations. (Press.)

## NATIONAL INCOME

More than 50 percent of the drop in national income in 1938 was attributed yesterday by Secretary Hopkins to the decline in the manufacturing industries. Addition of the decline in that field to losses suffered in mining and agriculture accounted for three-fourths of the national income decrease between 1937 and 1938. The manufacturing interests, which, Mr. Hopkins said, accounted in 1937 for about a fourth of the national <sup>income</sup> recorded a decline of \$4,700,000,000, or 27 percent, in produced income in the year. Although manufacturing, mining and agriculture combined accounted for three-fourths of the income drop, together they accounted for only 35 percent of the total national income in 1937. "The drop in the income of these industries for 1938," said the Secretary, "amounted to \$6,100,000,000, as compared with a decline of only \$1,800,000,000 in all other industries combined." (Press.)



Books for  
Farmers

"Hardin county, Iowa, has worked out a plan whereby rural people can get books easily," says Wallaces' Farmer (June). "This plan has been in operation for eleven years and serves thousands of people throughout the county every year. In 1927, the county supervisors made a contract with the three libraries in Iowa City, Eldora and Alden, which were to furnish books to rural people. A tax not to exceed four-tenths of a mill was voted for the purpose. The libraries were to receive as compensation for this service 6 cents for each volume and a sum not to exceed 3 cents per volume for transportation. This contract was so satisfactory that it has continued to work ever since. The librarians cooperate with the county superintendent of schools, sending them a list of schools to be served by each library...No school can receive more than forty books per month. If the teacher is unable to come to the library, the books are sent by mail. While Alden is the smallest town in the United States having a Carnegie library, it supplies twenty-one schools and 221 pupils. During the past year, this one little library has lent over 8,000 books to farm people."

"The Plow,"  
"The River"

"Several months ago I had the good fortune to see the two films which were produced by the United States Department of Agriculture, 'The Plow,' and 'The River,'" says Fred K. Howard in California Cultivator (June 3). "Each film is a powerful indictment of the methods we have followed to exploit our natural resources since the beginning of our existence as a nation...I have not made any comment on the films up to this time. I wondered if the craftsmanship of the film maker was responsible for my feelings, or if there was something deeper, more fundamental in the truths it so dramatically depicted. As I continued to think about them I began to wish that everyone interested in the welfare of the nation, particularly as it relates to agriculture, might have an opportunity to see these pictures. We should see them more than once, because they are like good art or music, and something is gained by each repetition until our whole outlook is changed..."

Streamlined  
Turkeys

The modernized small turkey, goal of poultry geneticists of the Department, will be shown in its present stage of development at the 7th World's Poultry Congress, Cleveland, July 28 to August 7. The display, part of the U. S. Government exhibit at the Congress, will include 2 live small-type white turkeys--a young tom and a young hen. Exact reproductions in wax of 4 dressed turkeys also will be shown, 2 of them modeled after male and female small-type turkeys with dressed weights of approximately 14 and 8 pounds, respectively, and 2 after male and female of the common Bronze variety, with dressed weights of approximately 21 and 14 pounds, respectively. The aim of the breeding work is to develop a small turkey to fit the modern small oven and small family, according to Berley Winton, in charge of poultry-husbandry investigations. There is a growing demand for small market turkeys, he says. The smaller turkeys sell at a premium of 1/2 to 5 cents a pound.



**Public Health  
Regulations**

The American Journal of Public Health (June) in an editorial on sanitary regulations as trade barriers, says:

"Many specific instances of the misuse of health legislation in placing drastic restrictions upon the legal right to market wholesome commodities, particularly dairy products and other foods, are given in a special report by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Health officials will find much that is interesting and provocative in this well documented report. While conceding that laws and regulations adopted by states, counties, and cities have helped to bring about a tremendous improvement in the sanitary quality of our market milk supplies, this report points out that licensing, inspection, and pasteurization requirements are often discriminatory against outside business, and are enforced in such a manner as to limit the sources of dairy products to local business. As a remedy for this situation, the suggestion is made that Congress adopt uniform sanitary requirements for all dairy products moving in interstate commerce. Reasonable and valid public health legislation, properly enforced, may of course affect private business, but it is a fundamental principle of law in this country that all such legislation must so operate as to afford to everyone the equal protection of the laws. State health laws may also legitimately interfere with interstate commerce, but only when their exercise under the police power of the states bears a real and substantial relation to the protection and preservation of the public health. Real or alleged economic necessity is no justification for the capricious use of public health legislation. The courts of last resort of this country have frequently upheld the legal principle that public health legislation is constitutional and its enforcement by executive departments is valid only when such legislation has an actual public health objective. The courts will look behind the laws for the motives that have actuated their adoption...Public health officials are guardians of the people's health, and not monitors for local industry..."

**Food Stamps  
for Seattle**

Selection of Seattle, Washington, as the third city in which the food stamp plan will be started, has been announced by Secretary Wallace. Two variations of the plan are to be tried out in Seattle. Under one, 3,800 who are classified as employables and are receiving food vouchers under relief, will be eligible to receive blue food stamps for additional food purchases of approximately 50 cents per week for each member of the family. This group will not be required to buy the orange food stamps which are provided in other stamp plans. Under the other variation, about 13,000 cases will be eligible to buy orange food stamps with cash, on the basis of about \$1 per week for each member of the family, and to receive free blue stamps in the ratio of one for two orange stamps. Included in this group will be those on relief who are classified as unemployables and are receiving cash payments, and those who receive old age assistance, aid to dependent children, and aid to the blind. In addition, approximately 8,000 WPA workers will be eligible to buy orange stamps and receive blue stamps on the same basis. Instead of buying with cash, however, they may request that deductions be made from their checks to pay for the orange stamps.



House Continued debate on H. R. 6635, amending the Social  
June 9 Security Act.

Received the conference report on H. R. 4218, legislative appropriation bill.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Plastic from Bagasse A plastic compound made from the lignin and cellulose of sugarcane bagasse, one of the country's important agricultural waste products, has been manufactured by chemists of the United States Department of Agriculture at the Agricultural By-Products Laboratory, Ames, Iowa. The chemists estimate that this new compound can be manufactured for less than half the cost of the cheapest synthetic plastic compound now on the market. The first, and cheapest, is hydrolysis with acid. Counting the cost of bagasse at \$8 a ton, baled and delivered at the factory, the chemists estimate that a plastic compound can be made by this method, in which the cost of material will be slightly more than two cents a pound. Plastics made from the compound, while not so strong as some synthetic products now in use, are quite moisture resistant and would be suitable for molding bathroom tile for both floors and walls. They apparently have the wearing ability of wood and may be sanded and repolished through the entire body. The second method is hydrolysis in the presence of aniline, a coal tar derivative. The material cost of plastics from this process will be more--about 4 1/2 cents a pound--but they are as strong as plastics now in use. In tests it has resisted bending pressures up to 9,000 pounds per square inch. They are slightly less water-resistant than plastics made by the first method, but do not warp and may be sawed, drilled and, with care, nailed. These properties suggest uses as card table tops, desk tops, and building panels. Treating the bagasse with sodium hydroxide and furfural is the third process. In quality plastics from this method are about midway between the other two. They flow better and mold at 2,500 pounds per square inch compared with 3,500 for the second treatment. They may be put to the same uses as the plastic from the second treatment. Either of the plastics made from the last two processes do not shatter easily. In fact, neither breaks when struck hard enough with a hammer to cause a dent. It is possible that other farm waste materials, such as cornstalks and straw from small grains, may be used in making plastics by the same processes, the chemists report. (Manufacturers Record, June.)

Tri-State Peach Pact Three sister peach states, Georgia, North and South Carolina, have joined forces and set up a peach marketing board to move their \$7,000,000 crop under a tri-state label, which specifies each peach as grade U.S. No. 1. The peaches are packed in bushel and half-bushel baskets and a few smaller containers, each bearing the individual grower's trade mark plus the marketing board's seal, which carries the grade. Buy graded peaches and you know every peach in a pound is up to standard in size, shape, color and is free of bruises and insect blemishes. (New York Herald Tribune, June 8.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXIII, No. 51

Section 1

June 13, 1939

## D.C. INCOME TAX BILL

The stiffest local income tax in the country was voted for the National Capital by the House yesterday after it had exempted members of Congress and legislative employees on Capitol Hill, says a report in the Washington Post. It applies retroactively to last year's earnings. As the bill now stands, it carries no exemptions for married persons or dependents. The rate, which was intended to apply to earned income in excess of \$10,000 and unearned income in excess of \$500, now applies to earned income on the following scale after exemption of the basic \$2,000 allowance: 2 percent on the first \$1,000; 3 percent on the next \$2,000; 4 percent on the next \$2,000; 5 percent on the next \$2,000; 6 percent on the next \$2,000; and 7 percent on all taxable income in excess of \$9,000. Whether the tax will apply to federal employees and other District wage earners who maintain legal residence in the states is conjectural, but the bill does provide that "in case of any corporation or a nonresident individual, gross income includes only the gross income from sources within the District of Columbia." The tax, if enacted into law, will apply to the incomes of persons living in suburban Maryland and Virginia and working in Washington, but credits will be allowed for payments to the states.

## ILLEGAL DUCK DRIVE STARTED

Duck bootleggers had better duck because the Bureau of Biological Survey is on the warpath to break up illegal trapping and selling of wild ducks and geese on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia. W. E. Crouch, chief of game management agents, said 42 convictions had been obtained recently in the federal courts at Norfolk, Virginia, Baltimore and Wilmington, Delaware, and other suspects were awaiting trial. "We're going to clean up all the sore spots in the country," he said. "The federal government will prosecute not only the duck bootleggers but the buyers as well." Crouch said the Eastern Shore was selected as the scene of the present drive because it was the source for illicit sales to restaurants, night spots and private clubs in Norfolk, Richmond, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. (A.P.).

## LILY GARDENS

The famous Shaw Lily Gardens of Kenilworth (Washington) are now in bloom for the first time under federal auspices, the Office of National Capital Parks announced yesterday. Approximately 3,000 plants representing more than 100 varieties are in bloom. The flowers are at their best between 8 a.m. and noon. (Washington Post.)



Farm Labor                      Glen T. Barton, Agricultural Adjustment Administra-  
in Arkansas                      tion, and J. G. McNeely, Arkansas Experiment Station, con-  
tribute a short article on changes in the status of  
laborers and tenants on Arkansas plantations, in the Journal of Land &  
Public Utility Economics (May). They say in conclusion: "An increase  
in the use of tractors, together with cotton-adjustment programs of re-  
cent years, has brought about important changes in the labor organiza-  
tion of Arkansas plantations. A 6% displacement of resident families  
occurred from 1932 to 1937. Evidence indicates that even more displace-  
ment took place from 1937 to 1938. A change in the types of labor em-  
ployed on the plantations was brought about by a shift from sharecropper  
cotton to wage cotton during the period covered by the study. This  
change of workers from a share-cropper to a wage-laborer status results  
in a diminution of the annual income of the worker, an 'economic dis-  
placement' equally as important as the physical displacement of families  
previously noted."

In the same periodical is a 12-page article, "The Rust Mechanical  
Cotton Picker and Probable Land-Use Adjustments," by Clarence A. Wiley,  
University of Texas.

Rural                      Rural Sociology (June) contains a paper on the work  
Sociology                      of the division of farm population and rural life of the  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics, by Carl C. Taylor, of  
the Bureau. "The division of farm population and rural life," he says  
in part, "is the only sociology division in the whole Department of Ag-  
riculture. Until rural social research was begun by the Works Progress  
Administration, it was the only rural sociology, if not the only sociology,  
division in the whole federal government...Since the establishment of  
such action agencies as the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the  
Soil Conservation Service, and the Farm Security Administration, the need  
and opportunities for this type of service have greatly increased. All  
these agencies have considerable appreciation of the fact that they are  
dealing with social as well as economic adjustments and that there is  
need for an ever enlarged body of sociological information...By no means  
all rural sociological research in agriculture is being done by the Di-  
vision of Farm Population and Rural Life. Agencies dealing with Land  
Use Adjustment, whether Land Economics, Soil Conservation Service, or  
Forest Service have entered the field of sociological research. The  
Bureau of Home Economics penetrates this field and the Works Progress  
Administration spends annually in rural social research from five to ten  
times as much money as does the whole Department of Agriculture in this  
field. Apparently there is great need for co-ordination and synthesis  
of efforts toward the end of unified and permanent service..."

There is also a note on the beginnings of rural social studies in  
the Department, by Dwight Sanderson, of Cornell University.



**Premiums**

A schedule of protein premiums to be added to the 1939 wheat loan basic rates for hard red spring, hard red winter and hard white wheat, in cases where these wheats show a 13% or more protein content, has been recommended to the Commodity Credit Corporation by the Secretary of Agriculture, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration announces. Also recommended was an increase in the terminal rate at Omaha to place the loan differential in line with price differences between Omaha and Minneapolis and Kansas City. The recommended premiums per bushel to be added to the loan rate are as follows: (1) One cent for wheat of protein content between 13 and 13.9%, and 1 cent for each additional 1/2 %, beginning at 14%. This schedule applies at Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, Minn., Superior, Wis., Portland, Oregon, Seattle, Wash., and all country points where the loan value is based on these terminal markets. (2) One cent for wheat of protein content between 13 and 13.9%, and 1 cent for each additional percent, beginning at 14%. This schedule applies at Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo., Kansas City, Kansas, Omaha, Neb., Council Bluffs, Iowa, Galveston and Houston, Texas, New Orleans, La., and all country points where the loan value is based on these terminal markets. (The Northwestern Miller and American Baker, June 7.)

**Anthrax****Poster**

A poster on anthrax, a disease principally affecting cattle, horses, and sheep, has recently been prepared by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Pointing out that the disease is transmissible to other animals and also is very dangerous to man, the poster emphasizes precautions to be taken in disposing of affected carcasses. The pictorial portion of the poster shows the characteristic appearance of an animal dead of anthrax, and the text briefly describes cause, distribution in the United States, seasonal occurrence, sources of infection, characteristics of the disease, prevention, treatment, and necessary precautions. (Medical Record, June.)

**Rural Youth  
Studies**

In Rural Sociology (June) Robin M. Williams, of the North Carolina Experiment Station, summarizes various studies of rural youth made in recent years. Discussing vocations of rural youth, he says: "Several studies have investigated the vocational choices of rural youth. Although both the classifications of occupations and the techniques of eliciting choices have varied from study to study, there is a rather high agreement as to the occupations most frequently chosen or anticipated by rural young people. On the basis of the most frequently mentioned choices in each study, among open country boys the occupations rank as follows: (a) farming, (b) mechanics, (c) engineering, (d) aviation, (e) professional work. Village boys select skilled labor and mechanics as their first choice, the next most popular vocations being unskilled and semiskilled labor, aviation and the professions, farming, and forestry, in the order named..."



House Passed H. R. 6635, to amend the Social Security Act,  
June 10 by a vote of 361 to 2.

Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 4218, legis-  
lative appropriation bill.

Adjourned until Monday, June 12.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

New York Land H. S. Tyler, of Cornell University describes land  
Classification classification in New York in the Journal of Land & Public  
Utility Economics (May). "Areas where a large proportion  
of the houses have disappeared and where the remaining farms are prac-  
tically all classified as poor are called land class I," he says in part.  
"Areas where some of the houses have disappeared and where those farms  
which remain are mostly poor are designated as land class II. The con-  
dition of the farm capital in each of these areas indicates that farm in-  
comes have been low for a period of years and that the farming which re-  
mains is not on a permanent basis. The permanent agricultural land is  
divided into land classes III and higher. Land class III contains a pre-  
ponderance of fair farms; class IV, of good farms; and classes V to VII,  
of good, very good, and excellent farms. Land class VII is developed  
muck land and is the highest class of land which has thus far been mapped  
in the State...Land classification in New York is done on a county basis...  
A good land-classification map encourages the extension of rural services  
in accordance with the ability of the various areas to pay for them. This  
is especially true where suggested programs for the extension of these ser-  
vices accompany the land-classification map. A suggested program for the  
construction of all-weather roads is shown on the large land-classifica-  
tion map of each county. A program for the extension of rural electric  
distribution lines is shown on a small-scale map in the report for each  
county, and large-scale maps are furnished to the electric companies serv-  
ing the area. No programs are prepared for the extension of farm credit,  
fire insurance, or other rural services, or for the centralization of  
schools, but a special effort is made to furnish land-utilization infor-  
mation to the agencies concerned."

Wheat "Importance of knowing the exact quality of this coun-  
Survey try's wheat crop is further demonstrated by a new project  
which the Department of Agriculture is about to initiate,"  
says an article in Business Week (June 10). "Three groups of experts  
will follow the harvest from Oklahoma north through the winter wheat states  
and on into the spring wheat areas. They will pick up representative head  
samples of wheat from definitely measured areas, the samples will be sent  
to a central laboratory at Kansas State Agricultural College, and informa-  
tion concerning yields per acre, probable test weights, protein content,  
and commercial grade will be ascertained. Results will provide the first  
broad analysis of the effect of wheat varieties on production..."



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Vol. LXXIII, No. 52

Section 1

June 14, 1939

## HOUSE VOTES

### TVA CURB

The House put upon the Tennessee Valley Authority last night drastic restrictions that would confine it to a specified area, take it out of competition with private power interests outside that area and submit its fiscal policies to the scrutiny of the General Accounting Office. The House rejected Senator George W. Norris's bill granting the TVA authority to issue \$100,000,000 in bonds and placing no restrictions upon the TVA. It adopted the House Military Affairs Committee bill, which limited the bond issuing authority to \$61,500,000. The vote was 191 to 167. The Norris bill originally was introduced to provide the TVA with authority to issue bonds to obtain \$45,000,000 with which to pay the Tennessee Electric Power Company, a Commonwealth & Southern subsidiary, for properties in Tennessee to be taken over by the TVA. This purchase agreement expires a week from yesterday. (New York Times.)

## U.S. LOAN FOR PARAGUAY

The United States agreed yesterday to provide substantial credits for Paraguay through the Export-Import Bank to support the currency and assist in the building of public works. The move is in line with credit arrangements previously made with Brazil, Haiti and Nicaragua, and in prospect with Chile and other Latin-American governments as one means of implementing the good neighbor policy. It is part of a drive to stimulate industry and trade in the Western Hemisphere, and to combat attempts of Germany and Italy to penetrate South America economically. (Press.)

## EASTERN CROP DAMAGE

Despite yesterday's rain the possibility of huge losses to farmers and a shortage of vegetables and dairy products as a result of the worst spring drought since 1903 still persisted in most of the (New York) metropolitan area with the exception of Nassau County, says a report in the New York Times. Farmers in Westchester, up-state and in New Jersey complained that the light showers which fell did little more than settle the dust. A rainfall of considerably larger proportions was needed, they said. Many reported that even a drenching rain would be of no help to some crops. Showers were forecast for today by the local Weather Bureau.



Industrial Uses of Farm Products      "The U. S. Department of Agriculture has recently compiled a list of the non-food uses of American agricultural products whose publishing takes four pages in fine print in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry," says Robert D. Potter, in Science Today (June 14). "Even farmers may be surprised to learn that from 86 sources of agriculture there come 133 raw materials useful in other ways than food. And out of these raw materials are fashioned 240 different manufactured products. Finally the consumer - rural or city dweller - will be amazed to learn that there are more than 400 non-food uses for these products of the farm. Cattle, of course, have food value as meat but most motorists may not know that cattle grease is a source of glycerol that may end up as anti-freeze for the family car. Or, just to vary the process, the glycerol may become part of the explosive dynamite. Corn, in contrast, appears in our daily lives as the sizing on the backs of carpets, or as an adhesive, a rayon fiber, a tanning agent, a smoking pipe or as wall board. Even such items as grapes have non-food uses for the grape seeds yield an oil that appears in lubricants and in soaps. Trees, of course, have a major value as lumber but omitting this item, they and their products do the following things: Make possible book and newsprint paper. Help tan leather. Create fiberboard. Act as an adhesive for lenses. Smoke meats. Yield valuable chemicals like acetone and acetic acid. Furnish dyes and create valuable plastics. Even the bees have a role. They furnish beeswax which appears in the form of polishes, candles, cosmetics and is used in the lithography which makes today's brilliantly colored advertising pictures."

Tick Fever Prevention      "The Maryland State Board of Health has issued a bulletin calling attention to one simple means of reducing the risk of tick fever," says an editorial in the Baltimore Sun (June 13). "It is an early removal of the parasites. The infection, apparently, is not instantaneous, and it is the belief of physicians that one may be bitten by an infected tick and yet escape the disease if the parasite is removed quickly. Therefore, if you live in an infested area, the Board of Health recommends inspecting your dog twice daily and keeping an equally vigilant eye on the children, especially if they are in the woods and fields. The information is of especial importance right now, first, because this seems to be an unusually bad year for ticks...The rate of the disease usually shoots up steeply until the middle of June, continues to rise at a somewhat slower rate until the middle of July, and does not begin to decline until the middle of August...The fatality rate for the country as a whole is 21.6 percent...The rule is certainly easy enough to remember; don't let the sun go down on a dog or a child in infested territory that has not been carefully examined and freed of ticks..."



**Discriminatory Trade Bars** Secretary of State Hull this week warned nations of the world that "discriminatory" trade agreements, such as those undertaken by Germany and Italy, are "bound" to result in "a general collapse." Marking the fifth anniversary of enactment of this country's reciprocal trade agreements law, the Secretary, father of the program, declared that "every departure from the policy represented by this program has led to the stifling of healthy trade and commerce and to the undermining of social stability." Since the signing of the act, he continued, a number of nations "have sought to cope with their economic problems through regimentation of all economic activity...Excessive and arbitrary checks on economic activity -- which is nothing more nor less than the usual and normal work of men -- cannot be overcome by unpayable loans, nor compensated by the spurious activity of creating sterile armament, nor remedied by oppressive preferences forced upon other nations who must pay unwilling tribute under threats of force." (Washington Post.)

**State Wheat Allotments** Wheat acreage allotments by States for 1940 amounting to 62,000,000 acres, an increase of 7,000,000 acres over 1939, have been announced by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The announcement was made two months earlier than usual in order that farmers, particularly in the Winter Wheat Belt, may have opportunity well ahead of seeding time to plan operations for 1940. All major wheat producing States received increases. The allotment of 62,000,000 acres to wheat, announced on May 16, was established in accordance with the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. The 7,000,000-acre increase reflects larger State allotments. In the State allotments, Kansas leads with 12,789,001 acres, compared with 11,067,349 for 1939. (New York Times.)

**Selenium in the West** Messrs. Beath, Gilbert and Eppson, of the Wyoming Experiment Station, are authors of an article in the American Journal of Botany (May), "The Use of Indicator Plants in Locating Seleniferous Areas in Western United States--II, Correlation Studies by States." The States are Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Texas and Utah. Their studies, which included 563 specimens of native plants from these states, "demonstrate that numerous geological formations from late Paleozoic to Quaternary in age support native seleniferous plants. These plants are rooted in both igneous and sedimentary rocks. The rocks include monzonite, limestones, and various types of shales. A number of geographical areas and geological formations not previously reported are considered."

**Coffee Record** "Because Americans are drinking more coffee, this will be a banner year in coffee consumption," says Business Week (June 10). "Already, disappearance figures for the first 11 months of the crop year (July through May) almost equal those for the entire previous crop year. And when June's record becomes known, it is expected to better the previous banner year, 1935-36, when 13,161,544 bags were consumed in this country..."



Senate Both Houses passed without amendment H. J. Res. 322,  
June 12 appropriating \$1,750,000 for control of insect pests and  
plant diseases (this joint resolution will now be sent to  
the President). A Budget estimate was received for this purpose (\$1,750,-  
000) (H. Doc. 319). Mr. Cannon of Mo. stated that the conferees on the  
agricultural appropriation bill (H. R. 5269) have agreed to strike from  
the bill the \$2,417,000 item for this purpose.

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry submitted a report (S. Rept.  
588) on S. 1850, to aid the States and Territories in making provisions  
for the retirement of employees of the land-grant colleges, which was  
reported with amendments on June 8.

House Passed H. R. 6405, authorizing the sale of certain  
June 12 real estate in the District of Columbia no longer required  
for public purposes; H. R. 3838, to protect trade-mark  
owners, producers, distributors, and the general public against injurious  
and uneconomic practices in distribution of competitive commodities  
through use of voluntary contracts establishing minimum resale prices in  
D. C.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

County Land K. E. Barraclough, New Hampshire Extension Forester,  
Use Planning in an article on county land use planning, in the Journal  
of Forestry (June) says in part: "The Extension Service  
is confronted with a difficult task. Extension workers must be educated  
to undertake the assignment from a broad point of view rather than along  
the lines of project teaching where a farmer is persuaded to build a silo  
or to go into commercial potato production because the county agent hap-  
pens to be interested in these projects. We are past the period when we  
can teach farmers new and better methods of production and then assume  
that they can carry on successfully from this point as individualists  
without regard to the many social and economic problems that have developed  
from the misuse of land. It is the job of the Extension Service to teach  
the people to work together in the solution of their mutual problems. It  
has the responsibility of teaching rural people to make the best use of  
the public services that they, the people, have created. Good relations  
must be maintained with all public agencies concerned with land use prob-  
lems. There is no set procedure as to how the program is to be carried  
out. General rules have been established that are applicable to the entire  
country. Each state and each county will go at the job differently, but  
every effort will be made to hold each community, county, and state group  
to the general objectives...County land use committees may make some very  
interesting recommendations after they study the facts. I can visualize  
where they might find it desirable to recommend better coordination of pub-  
lic activities in a county. It is quite possible that they might recom-  
mend public regulation over privately owned forest lands. When a demand  
for regulation is made by the people back on the land, it is more liable  
to be favorably received than when the people are subjected to regulation  
without a voice in the formation of the policy..."



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Vol. LXXIII, No. 53

Section 1

June 15, 1939

## CROPS AND WEATHER

Heavy rains in the Southwest, especially in southern Kansas and northern Oklahoma, are impeding the harvest, according to a Chicago report to the New York Times. This, with reports of the presence of black stem rust in parts of the Southwest, induced fair buying in wheat yesterday. The market in Minneapolis was relatively firm, evidently being affected by reports from Red River Valley that the spring wheat was not showing the expected improvement since the rains. Reports from Kansas and Oklahoma indicated rains of two inches or more. Harvesting and the movement of new wheat is being slowed up temporarily, and inspection of receipts shows some lowering of quality as a result of frequent rains. The weekly Washington crop summary confirmed further deterioration in southwest Kansas, and reports of local infestation of black rust, but said on the whole the winter wheat crop had made good progress toward maturity.

A new lease on life in the form of more than an inch of rain in 24 hours was believed last night to have been given to farm products valued at millions of dollars and to the dairy industry in and near the New York metropolitan area. The rain, temporarily at least, ended the worst spring drought New York had suffered in 36 years and saved many crops that farmers had given up as lost. Agricultural experts warned, however, that considerably more rain was needed. On Long Island, potatoes, cauliflower and cabbages had been aided and in some cases saved by the rain. The late strawberry crop in New Jersey was believed saved and the corn, potato, alfalfa and second hay crop were thought to be saved. Officials said also that the huge tomato crop of New Jersey had been helped by the rain. (New York Times.)

## 4-H CLUB CAMP OPENS

Farm boys and girls from 43 states and Puerto Rico moved into tents today on the shore of the Tidal Basin for the thirteenth annual National 4-H Club Camp, June 15-21. The 172 delegates, outstanding 4-H Club members in their states, represent more than 1,250,000 club members in the states and territories. Two boys and two girls form the official delegation from most of the states. Usually each delegation is accompanied by one man and one woman, state club leaders. Puerto Rico is represented for the first time. Theme of the discussions this year is leadership. Speakers include Secretary Wallace, Dr. Bilmanis, Latvian Minister to the United States, Dr. C. B. Smith, retired leader of extension work, and Mrs. G. T. Edwards, in charge, youth activities for the Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union.



**Food Stamp  
Experiment**

The Shreveport (La.) Times (June 7) commenting editorially on the food stamp plan, says: "From Rochester comes word that the novel system being tested there to send food surpluses into the homes of relief workers is proving highly successful....Writing in the New York Times, Wilbur G. Lewis reports that Rochester considers the stamp project a success... 'As disunited as any American community when it comes to settling economic issues, this city of 340,000 seems solidly in favor of a government program and as solidly willing to push it further,' Lewis writes. 'They found among other things that more than \$30,000 worth of new business had been pumped into retail trade channels in less than three weeks, that labor organizations and business alike had endorsed the plan and that needy folk were getting food they were unable to purchase before.' Of course, the surplus food obtained by the relievers must be paid for by the federal government...But the project must nevertheless be regarded as a partial answer to the valid contention that the country cannot tolerate indefinitely under-nourishment on one hand, and excessive supplies of food on the other. A rational, workable solution of that problem is imperative. The Rochester project is a step toward such a solution. Future experiments testing the stamp idea in other cities will be watched closely by all thoughtful citizens."

**Ecology in  
Forestry**

The June Journal of Forestry contains a paper on ecological aspects of forest genetics, by Ernst J. Schreiner of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station. In the concluding paragraph he says: "It may be said that although the effect of environment upon the germ plasm itself may eventually become of great significance, at the present time the reaction of the genotype to the environment is of primary importance. For the present, a practical objective of both forest genetics and forest ecology may be briefly defined as the best forest tree types fitted into favorable habitats. The forest geneticist's responsibility is to discover, or to produce, inherently superior races, strains, or types. Since the habitat modifies many expressions of heredity, especially such characteristics as rate of growth, crown form, and persistence of limbs, the extent of such modification must be considered in judging the inherent value of a species, race, or individual. It is the responsibility of the forest ecologist to determine the effect of habitat on the expression of characteristics which are basically inherent. Thus, genetical and ecological efforts may well be coordinated toward the end in view -- better forest trees."

**10-Year High  
Rural Sales**

Daily average sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas for May were 16 percent over such sales for May, last year, and were the highest for the month in the past ten years, Department of Commerce estimated. Little change was shown as compared with April of this year but after adjustment for seasonal influences, the index for these sales advanced 3 points from April to May, the department said. (Wall Street Journal, June 14.)



Foreign  
Markets

"A curtailed foreign market for their products confronts American farmers as they move well into a new crop season with prospects of production considerably in excess of domestic needs," says an Associated Press report in the Washington Star (June 11). "The Agriculture Department's foreign service reports that exports of agricultural commodities during the first 10 months of the current fiscal year were 21 percent lower in value than in the comparable period a year ago. The exports were valued at \$612,778,000, compared with \$777,264,000 a year ago. The decline was due largely, the service said, to a fall in shipments of cotton, the major item of trade. Exports of cotton dropped 44 percent in value and 39 percent in quantity, while total exports of all other farm products decreased by 8 percent in value..."

Size of  
Farms

Clarence Roberts, editor of the Farmer-Stockman, in an article on subsistence farming, in the Daily Oklahoman (June 4) says that financially the idea is unsound, in Oklahoma, at least, and adds: "When the Farm Security Administration, two years ago, set out to finance certain selected renters with the full purchase price of a farm, a lot of hard thinking was devoted to the size of farm which should be financed. It was at once recognized by all that the farm unit to be financed must be big enough, first, to make a living for the family on it and, second, to pay for itself. To date, 265 Oklahoma renters have been financed. The average size of the farms is close to 160 acres and the average cost not far from \$7,000. It is the belief of farm management specialists that it would be a serious mistake to finance renters in the purchase of smaller farms or farms of less productive soil. The farms so far financed are better than average farms. They were bought worth the money. The rate of interest is 3 percent and payments are spread out over 40 years time. The renters selected to buy these farms are the very cream of 125,000 renters in Oklahoma. They have got what it takes to make a farm do its best. If the money available for this program had been divided up into small units and used to finance the purchase of subsistence farms, even at 3 percent interest and 40 years' time, the program would be doomed to failure. As it figures out, roughly, 80 acres of each quarter section purchased by a renter will be needed to produce a living for the family. The other 80 acres diligently farmed will, over a long period of years, pay for both 80's. That's the basic principle operating in any purchase of land on time."

## Northeast

FSA Benefits      An increase in the net worth of low income farm borrowers in Region No. 1, comprising the New England and North Atlantic States, by \$539,948, or an average of \$62.37 a family, has been reported by the Farm Security Administration. This increase was less than the national average of \$265.37 and in some States the survey showed an average loss rather than a gain. (New York Times.)



Senate  
June 13                      Considering bills on the calendar, passed the following: S. 229, to authorize withdrawal of national-forest lands for protection of watersheds from which water is obtained for municipalities; S. 231, to authorize the acquisition of forest lands adjacent to and over which highways, roads, or trails are constructed with Federal funds in order to preserve and restore their natural beauty; S. 2237, to provide that users of any range under the Taylor Grazing Act may elect their advisory board; S. 478, to provide for more expeditious payment of amounts due to farmers under agricultural programs by requiring 1938 payments to be made "without regard to certain technical errors and claims for refunds that have been made for 1937;" H. R. 2179, to ratify and confirm certain interest rates on loans made from the revolving fund authorized by sec. 6 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1929 (this bill will now be sent to the President); H. R. 5987, to permit Government vehicle operators stationed in the field to drive in D. C. on temporary official business without D. C. permits (this bill will now be sent to the President); S. 1575, to provide that the annual registration of motor vehicles in D. C. shall be from April 1 in each year to March 31 in the succeeding year.

The following bills were passed over after discussion: S. 915, to provide for the more expeditious settlement of disputes with the United States; S. 1610, to prevent discrimination against graduates of certain law schools and those acquiring their legal education in law offices, in making Government legal appointments; S. 1108, to restrict exportation of certain Douglas fir peeler logs and Port Orford cedar logs; S. 1955, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to delegate certain regulatory functions and to create the position of Second Assistant Secretary of Agriculture; S. 1852, to promote the free flow of domestically produced fishery products in commerce.

Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 6260, War Department civil appropriation bill.

Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 5427, Labor Department appropriation bill.

Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 4218, Legislative appropriation bill.

Both Houses received the conference report on H. R. 5762, to provide for temporary postponement of the operations of certain provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

Committee on Banking and Currency reported without amendment H. R. 3325, to extend the time within which the powers relating to stabilization fund and alteration of weight of the dollar may be exercised (S. Rept. 591).

Adjourned until Thursday, June 15.

House  
June 13                      Messrs. Leavy and Johnson of Okla. spoke in support of appropriations for the Farm Security Administration.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXIII, No. 54

Section 1

June 16, 1939

REVIVAL "The inflation bloc in the Senate, which in 1933  
MONEY BILL pushed through the silver-purchase program as an amendment to the agricultural adjustment act of that year, opened a new surprise offensive yesterday to have \$2,000,000,000 in currency issued as an experimental method of reviving commodity prices," reports Charles W. Hurd in the New York Times. "Senator Thomas, author of the silver-purchase resolution, and Senator McCarran precipitated the new inflation effort by introducing their proposal as an amendment to the stabilization bill, which the Senate will take up on Monday. With the currency proposal they coupled another to have the price of newly mined domestic silver raised from its arbitrary level of 64 cents, the price now paid by the Treasury, to \$1.04..."

DRUG BILL The Senate yesterday adopted and sent to the House  
LABEL DELAY for agreement a conference report in a program to extend the effective date of some clauses of the new food and drug act. The House bill gave the Secretary of Agriculture flat authority to extend until July 1, 1940, the effective date of the labeling provisions. The Senate amended the bill by liberalizing it to permit any manufacturer to obtain an extension for the same period "as a matter of rights" simply by filing an affidavit that to comply with the new law earlier would damage his business. The compromise reached by conferences grants an extension to July 1, 1940, for products manufactured and labels produced prior to February 1, 1939, as long as the products and the labels conform with current law. (New York Times.)

CCC UNDER The Civilian Conservation Corps, officered from its  
CIVILIANS beginning by reserves from the armed services, is to be put on a civilian basis, according to an announcement yesterday by Robert Fechner, director. Under orders promulgated by President Roosevelt, the assignment of reserve officers of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps to "active duty" as CCC company commanders, staff officers, physicians, dentists, veterinarians and chaplains, will be discontinued. The camps will continue to be managed by the same type of men, including mostly reserve officers, but they will serve as civilians and not as members of the services. The replacement program is expected to be complete by January 1, 1940. (Press.)



**Flood Control Studies** "Until the past year the government agencies most actively interested in floods and flood problems have been the Corps of Engineers of the War Department, the Geological Survey of the U. S. Department of the Interior, and the Weather Bureau of the U. S. Department of Agriculture," say F. E. Hardisty and H. B. Ingersoll of the Soil Conservation Service in Agricultural Engineering (June). "Of these, the Corps of Engineers is engaged in the study of flood phenomena and in the application of large-scale remedial projects on large streams which cause exceptional flood damage to life and property at particular locations; the Geological Survey, in its presentation of stream runoff data, is especially interested in stage and discharge maxima which occur during floods; and the Weather Bureau is concerned with flood crest prediction. Recently, however, the Department of Agriculture has been charged with making flood control surveys on certain selected flood source watersheds to determine the flood control value of agricultural conservation practices. These surveys, which enjoy the complete cooperation of those agencies interested in other phases of the flood problem, are intended to supplement large-scale national flood control works on main streams by fostering soil and water conservation on the agricultural lands above them. As a result of this rational cooperative approach to the study of flood problems, the engineers' conception of major floods is undergoing a change. From the upstream engineering or 'little waters' standpoint the peak flows on main floodways are beginning to be considered as the sum of discharges from the many small tributaries contributing to them. Such a transition is to be expected at this time because conservation programs on agricultural land are just beginning to take their place as an integral part of a coordinated national effort toward flood control..

**Rooseveltia** A magnificent tropical palm has been named in honor of Frankliniana President Roosevelt: *Rooseveltia frankliniana*. Specimens were collected on Cocos island in the Pacific during the President's last fishing cruise, by Dr. Waldo Schmitt of the Smithsonian Institution. The new genus and species were named by Dr. O. F. Cook, U.S. Department of Agriculture botanist. President Roosevelt is not the first chief executive to have a genus of palm trees named after him. A fine type of fan palm, that grows in a chain of oases among California's desert mountains, bears the name *Washingtonia*. It is now widely cultivated as a park and street tree. There is also a *Jeffersonia*, a lovely spring wildflower, named in honor of Thomas Jefferson. Benjamin Franklin, whose surname is the President's given name, is memorialized by a beautiful magnolia-like Southern shrub, *Franklinia*, now extinct except in cultivation. (Science News Letter, June 17.)

**Textile Council** Launching of the National Council of Textile Industries was announced yesterday, says a report in the New York Times. The council comprises the Cotton Textile Institute, Inc., the National Rayon Dealers Association and the National Federation of Textiles, Inc.



Trends in Poultry "The poultry and egg industry once more is expanding," says S. A. Jones in the Agricultural Situation (June).

"Production of chickens was increased in 1938, and a further increase is in progress this year. Production of eggs declined slightly in 1938, but the output during the current year 1939 will probably equal or exceed that of 1937. On January 1 last there were approximately 413 million chickens on farms. During the last 15 years the largest number of chickens on farms was 475 million in 1928, and the smallest was 387 million in 1938. There had been a gradual increase from 1925 to 1928, but this was followed by drastic reductions during the ensuing years of economic depression and droughts. A feed shortage continuing through the 1937 hatching season left the number of chickens on January 1, 1938, at the low point for the series, but during 1938 there was a 7 percent recovery in numbers...Approximately 37 billion eggs were produced in 1938. Largest production was 39 billion in 1930, smallest was 33 billion in 1935. Production had increased gradually from 1925 through 1930, then gradually decreased during the drought and depression years. Production increased about 11 percent in 1937 as economic and feed conditions improved, but declined slightly in 1938 on account of the small number of layers. With the present increase in layers, egg production may reach or exceed the 1937 record this year...Although total egg production in the United States in 1938 was about 6 percent larger than in 1925, it came from 10 percent fewer layers at the beginning of 1938 as compared with 1925. This indicates that production per bird was about 18 percent larger in 1938 than in 1925. Less available feed resulted in lower egg production per bird during some depression and drought years, but hens laid an unusually large number of eggs in 1937 and 1938, and the general trend in rate of laying per hen has been upward since 1925..."

Spraying Method Injecting a ready-mixed concentrate into the water at the intake of a high pressure spray pump has been devised by scientists of the Washington Experiment Station. Instead of mixing the insecticide, oil, and water in the spray tank and pumping it out, the spray concentrate and water are held in separate tanks and brought together just as the water is being forced through the pump into the spray lines. The proper ratio between the concentrate and water is maintained by gearing a meter on the water line to a pump which forces the concentrate into the water at the intake of the spray pump at a rate depending on the flow of water. Water may be drawn directly from a hydrant or other source of clean water without the use of a special tank. Several advantages over the old method are claimed by Dr. Kermit Groves, assistant chemist of the station, and Dr. James Marshall, former assistant entomologist at the station, inventors of the device. It eliminates the need for agitating a large amount of spray mixture, the equipment can be operated for several hours at a time without attention, and the "dynamite" sprays can be applied more uniformly and simply by injection than by tank mixing. Experiments conducted during the past summer indicate that a saving of nearly one-fourth in the cost of arsenicals or cryolite can be made by the new injection method. Patent for the device has been applied for. (Better Fruit, June.)



House                      Began general debate on H. J. Res. 326, relief bill,  
June 14                    which was reported from the Committee on Appropriations  
                             without amendment (H. Rept. 833).

                             Received the conference report on H. R. 6260, War  
Department civil appropriation bill, which contains the \$3,000,000 flood-  
control item for this Department.

                             Received the conference report on S. 1569, extending to subsequent  
years certain provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act relating to  
cotton county acreage allotments.

                             Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries reported with amendment  
H. R. 5681, to authorize the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation to  
purchase and distribute surplus products of the fishing industry (H. Rept.  
837).

                             Committee on Civil Service reported with amendment S. 281, to amend  
further the Civil Service Retirement Act of 1930 (H. Rept. 840).

                             Committee on Disposition of Executive Papers reported with amendment  
H. R. 6585, to provide for the disposition of certain records of the  
United States Government (H. Rept. 838).

                             (Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Government                The American Cattle Producer (June) in an item on  
Meat Grading              government meat grading, says: "It is reasonable to sup-  
                             pose that federal grading centers would be even more nu-  
merous today and that U. S. grade labels would be seen on many more  
pounds of meat if only the consumer knew what grading was and was apprised  
of the fact that such a service could usually be had upon demand...Much  
of the public does now know that there is such a thing as federal meat  
grading. Many people do not know what it means, confusing U. S. grading  
with U. S. inspection, which only shows that the meat is safe for human  
food. Obviously the answer to this is: Tell the consumer what govern-  
ment grading is. Tell her that the government stands ready to put a  
quality mark on the meat she buys so that she can buy with confidence.  
Publicity on the subject is not entirely lacking, for the federal govern-  
ment has often issued pamphlets and articles about its service. Recent-  
ly there has come to our desk a leaflet, no doubt widely distributed,  
which addresses itself to the consumer on the subject. But, desirable as  
this publicity is, it is not enough. The job of telling the masses about  
grading is up to the industry..."

Cotton Reward            The Texas legislature recently created an incentive  
                             for Texas scientists, chemists, engineers to discover or  
create a new use for cotton that will consume 300,000 bales or more a  
year. The legislature has set aside \$10,000 for a Texan accomplishing  
this feat. (Cotton and Cotton Oil Press, June 10.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

June 19, 1939

**WALLACE ON WHEAT SUBSIDY** The government's subsidized wheat export program was defended by Secretary Wallace yesterday in commenting on Department of Agriculture figures on wheat exports in the eleven months ending May 31, says a report in the New York Times. The fact that wheat and flour sales for exports in this period represented about 112,500,000 bushels of wheat, Mr. Wallace said, proved that in the face of increased world competition and higher import barriers the United States still could hold its fair share of the world trade for an important export commodity. The success of the program, he added, had protected the American wheat farmer from troubles that had beset wheat growers in other sections of the world by maintaining for him a price of about 11 cents a bushel above world levels. Mr. Wallace's comments were based on a report from the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation. Of the total sales for export, the report showed, the sale of about 88,200,000 bushels had been assisted by the export program. Sales of wheat represent about 79 percent of the 112,500,000 bushels total and sales of flour the rest. Sales of wheat by the corporation totaled 68,700,000 bushels, and an indemnity was paid on the export of about 19,500,000 bushels of wheat in the form of flour.

**CONDITION OF CROPS** Heavy general rains have provided the spring wheat areas of the American Northwest and of western Canada with generous moisture supplies sufficient to carry the crop into the critical July period, says a Chicago report in the New York Times. Since June 1 frequent showers have fallen over the Dakotas, Montana and Minnesota, but, judging from current reports, the spring wheat has not made the response expected, although naturally there has been some improvement. The extremely dry weather during nearly all of April and the first half of May took substantial toll of the crop, being reflected now in short straw and small heads. This condition is shown in the best wheat lands of the Northwest, in the Red River Valley. In South Dakota large sections of wheat have a poor prospect, the grain being small and weed choked.

**LIPSTICK SEIZURE** Acting under the new food, drug and cosmetic act for the first time in the New York district, the government had filed a libel to seize 40,000 lipsticks produced by Guerlain, Inc., of Paris. It was charged that the cosmetics contained cadmium and selenium, "poisonous or deleterious substances." (New York Times.)



**Farm Loan Associations**            "The national farm loan associations are being physically reorganized, functionally invigorated, and financially strengthened," says Albert S. Goss, Land Bank Commissioner, in News For Farmer Cooperatives (June). "They now give promise of becoming the farmer-managed local units of a cooperative mortgage credit institution which the Farm Loan Act intended they should be. These associations constitute the foundation upon which the Federal land bank system is built. They have endorsed and are responsible for more than 2 billion dollars of farm mortgage indebtedness constituting about 30 percent of the farm mortgage debt of the Nation. The system is essentially cooperative, but this feature for many years was neglected and the Federal land banks assumed many of the duties and prerogatives that were intended for the associations. National farm loan associations are composed of groups of farmers who organize, and, by the assumption of certain mutual responsibilities, provide a means of getting long-term mortgage credit for their community. The borrower who obtains a Federal land bank loan through an association subscribes for shares of stock in the association to the extent of 5 percent of the amount of the loan, and the association in turn subscribes for an equal amount of stock in the Federal land bank. The endorsement by the association makes it liable for the payment of all mortgages given by its members to secure the loans. The borrower's stock is held by the association as collateral security for the loan and the stock of the Federal land bank subscribed for by the association is pledged as collateral to secure the association's endorsement...."

**Demand, Price Situation**            The Bureau of Agricultural Economics says there are prospects of moderate improvements in industrial activity and increased consumer purchasing power. Foreign business conditions also are picking up, the bureau noted. It predicted the improvement in business and demand for farm products will continue relatively stable throughout the year. "Whether or not the anticipated summer improvement in industrial conditions will be continued into the late fall and winter, with a gradually rising tendency, will depend partly upon the extent to which commodity prices respond to the generally improved outlook," the bureau said. "Commodity prices recently have shown a strengthening tendency despite the continued absence of forward or speculative buying. If the improvement continues, business men may modify the hand-to-mouth buying policy which has been current for several months, and there may be a sufficient increase in forward commitments to start a substantial rise in industrial activity..." (Press.)



**Large Farm  
Population**

"Reduced migration from the drought areas, the generally low level of industrial employment during 1938, and continued expansion of farm mechanization appear to have been major factors accounting for the changes in farm population during the past year," says Conrad Tacuber in the Agricultural Situation (June). "Approximately 1,000,000 persons moved off the farms; 800,000 moved from towns and cities to farms. As usual, the movement from farms to other farms was larger than the movement from farms to towns and cities. BAE estimates show a net migration of 200,000 persons off the farms in 1938, but this was more than offset by an excess of births over deaths. The total farm population was about 32,000,000 as of January 1, 1939, compared with 31,819,000 in 1938. The farm population is close to the largest on record -- 32,077,000 in 1910....The reports for 1938 and for other years since 1930 make it clear that, except in the drought area, farm population is increasing more rapidly in the so-called problem areas than in the better-farming areas. Land resources in these areas are severely limited, agricultural incomes are low, and educational and other social services are meager. Nevertheless, it is in these areas that the ratio of maturing farm youth to older workers is especially high. To start farming in these areas is essentially easier than in the better-farming areas, since land values are low and almost no capital equipment is required. The returns which may be expected under such conditions are, of course, very low and may be insufficient to maintain health and efficiency. Nonetheless, this is the choice of many whose background and education have not provided the knowledge and skills to enable them to compete successfully in better land areas or for urban employment. In areas where commercial agriculture is predominant, farm population has been either decreasing or increasing only slowly."

**AAA Range  
Program**

"Grass is one of Oregon's greatest resources...and ranch operators who have been carrying on range conservation practices, either by themselves or through the AAA range program," says an editorial in the Oregon Daily Journal (May 29), "are better able to provide sufficient forage for their livestock. This dry season is a No. 1 object lesson in the value of range conservation. The federal range program, an innovation in federal assistance to the livestock man, is gaining rapid and widespread acceptance. Approximately 1400 Oregon ranch operators, representing 6,000,000 acres of range land, are taking part in the AAA range program this year, according to Blaine Devers, state range examiner. In 1936 only 3,500,000 acres were included. Stockmen support the co-operative program because they realize that deferred grazing and reseeding of depleted areas, contouring and spreader dams to prevent erosion and hold runoff water, terraces or diversion ditches to spread flood waters over range lands, and development of stock water by means of reservoirs, wells and springs, have meant a better grass supply. They have acted as a range bank account on which to draw during unfavorable times like the present..."



**Market News by Radio** More than 345 radio stations in the United States are broadcasting one or more daily programs of agricultural market information, according to a recent survey by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. With a few exceptions, the market news information used by these stations is collected and compiled by the bureau, which has just issued a directory of stations and commodities covered by the broadcasts. The directory shows an increase of 90 stations during the past year, and an increase of more than 160 during the past two years. The information in the directory was obtained through questionnaires sent to each of the 726 radio stations in the United States. (Blue Anchor, June.)

**Senate June 15** Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendment S. 2212, to provide for the development of marketing and marketing services in the states (S.Rept. 601).  
Committee on Claims reported with amendments S. 2399, for the relief of certain former employees of the Farm Security Administration (S.Rept. 602).  
Committee on Territories and Insular Affairs reported without amendment H.R. 161, authorizing Hawaii to sell public lands to citizens who possess the qualifications of homesteaders and who have received loans under the Barkhead-Jones farm tenant act (S.Rept. 606).  
Committee on Foreign Relations reported with amendments H.R. 5835, to authorize the President to render closer and more effective the relationship between the American republics (S.Rept. 608).  
Recessed until Monday, June 19.

**House June 15** Agreed to the conference report on S. 1569, extending to subsequent years certain provisions of the agricultural adjustment act relating to cotton county acreage allotments.

**House June 16** Passed H.J.Res. 326, relief bill. Leavy amendment to make available to the Farm Security Administration funds collected during fiscal year 1939 on rural rehabilitation loans was defeated; as passed the House, \$123,000,000 is provided for the FSA.

Received from the President a proposed provision pertaining to existing appropriation for Biological Survey for 1940 (H.Doc. 343); to Com. on Appropriations.

Committee on Foreign Affairs reported without amendment H.R. 6852, authorizing federal participation in the Francisco Vasquez de Coronado Exposition (H.Rept. 849); and without amendment H.J.Res. 278 to authorize appropriation of \$851,111.59 additional for federal participation in the New York World's Fair 1939 (H.Rept. 850).

Committee on Ways and Means reported with amendment H.R. 6851, to provide revenue, equalize taxation, etc. (H.Rept. 855).

Received the conference report on H.R. 5427, Labor Department appropriation bill.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)



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Vol. LXXIII, No. 56

Section 1

June 20, 1939

## WALLACE ON THE PRESS

The press should strive to build up a concept of the general welfare which transcends the welfare of any individual or any group and the editorial and news pages should try to hold the scales level between the three great economic groups, agriculture, industry and labor, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace told the Alabama Press Association in Washington last night.

"Our country, with its wealth and natural resources, with its ingenuity and mechanical skill," he declared, "ought to have and can have a national income of \$100,000,000,000. But such an income cannot be attained without teamwork among all our great groups, without mutual understanding among agriculture, labor and industry. Such an income cannot be attained if any two of these groups gang up on the third. If agriculture and labor gang up on business or labor and business gang up on agriculture or agriculture and business gang up on labor the whole country will suffer."

Pressures on the newspapers, he said, were "mostly in the direction of favoring the interests of business and pressures on behalf of labor and agriculture do not make themselves felt in the editorial room of the average newspaper." Therefore, he said, the newspapers might well strive to reach the ideal carved in stone above the doorway of the Supreme Court, "Equal Justice Under Law."

He endorsed a suggestion that the newspaper publishers and the editorial workers establish "a board or agency of their own to pass judgment on the accuracy of ethical handling of news accounts or editorial comment," this board or agency to "confine itself to those few cases which were the subject of great controversy, with charges of unfairness, inaccuracy, injury to the public interest, or injury to innocent persons." (New York Times.)

## FARM PURCHASE BILL APPROVED

The Senate Agriculture Committee approved yesterday a bill under which the Federal Government would underwrite \$350,000,000 of private loans for the purchase of farms. The bill, by Senator Lee of Oklahoma, would apply to farm purchase loans a principle similar to that followed in the home loan field by the Federal Housing Administration. Aides of Senator Lee said 52 Senators, a majority, had signed the measure as co-authors, and that Chairman Jones of the House Agriculture Committee would press for a similar bill in the House. The bill would be administered by the Farm Security Administration. (A.P.).



Pay Rolls  
on Farms

"Farmers paid out to farm laborers in 1938 cash wages of 556 million dollars, they furnished board and lodging valued at 137 millions, and supplied other perquisites amounting to 65 millions," says the Agricultural Situation (June). "The total was 758 million dollars. This 'farm pay roll' was slightly less than the total of 794 million dollars in 1937, but except for that year, it was the largest since 1931. The largest farm pay roll in 30 years of Government record was 1,780 million dollars in 1920, the smallest was 517 millions in 1933...In the last 30 years, hired labor has cost farmers a total of 29.8 billion dollars, or an average of almost 1 billion dollars a year. Cash wages have made up 73 percent of this total. The remainder -- 27 percent -- represents the cost of goods and services given to hired farm laborers in addition to cash wages. During the 30 years there have been wide annual fluctuations in the farm pay roll. From 1909 to 1915 the farm-labor bill was around 700 or 800 million dollars. Beginning in 1916, it increased steadily to a peak of 1.8 billion dollars in 1920, when wage rates and other prices were at unusually high levels. In 1921, the farm-labor bill declined to between 1.1 and 1.2 billion dollars, and remained close to that level through 1930 when another decline set in. From the 1933 depression low of a little more than 500 million dollars, it increased to almost 800 million dollars in 1937, but declined again in 1938 to 758 million dollars. Similar fluctuations have occurred in the cash-wage bill. From a level between 500 and 600 million dollars in the earlier years, it reached its high point in 1920 at 1.3 billion dollars. From 1921 to 1930, it fluctuated narrowly around 900 million dollars. Its low point in 1933 was 366 million dollars, from which it rose to 570 millions in 1937, and 556 millions in 1938..."

Timber  
Machines

"A machine which in five seconds gives the exact volume of a growing tree of any kind and any dimensions, and two other interesting instruments for timber assessments, have been built by a Swedish inventor," says Holger Lundberg in Scientific American (July). "The 'trunk volume calculator,' as the machine is called, has been constructed by a Swedish forestry expert, Capt. Alvar Drangel, and it has been considered of such value that the Swedish government has helped finance manufacture. It is a 'nomo-mechanical' calculating machine, equipped with certain mechanical devices through which a number of scales can be set in relation to each other. The machine is, practically speaking, an endless table system, which in five seconds solves an equation after five of its variables have been given exact values. For assessment of the cubic content of growing trees, the machine is thus set for the values of the trunk curvature, the class of bark, the taper percentage, the length of the trunk and, finally, the diameter of the tree at breast height. The volume is immediately obtained, exact to a ten thousandth of a cubic meter. The machine, which has about the shape of an ordinary calculating machine, but is operated by dials instead of keys, is able to deliver 8,000,000 volume figures.. The two other instruments, constructed by the same



inventor, are a 'trunk diameter registrator,' working on the same principles as the first-mentioned machine and of about the same type, and a precision height measuring instrument, by means of which the height from the cut to any desired point on the trunk can be rapidly and correctly fixed...."

Calif. Co-op Cotton Gins      "...The most distinctive feature of cooperative gins in California is the manner in which these associations are financed by their members," says Otis T. Weaver, Farm Credit Administration, in News for Farmer Cooperatives (June). "Although these gins are only 2 years old, their members have already learned one extremely important cooperative principle that some cooperative gins in other States have not been able to figure out with as much as 15 to 20 years' experience. The members of these gins have learned that they must buy and pay for their gin plants. Not only did these members make a substantial cash investment in the capital of their association at the time it was organized but each member continues to make an additional investment each time he gins a bale of cotton. From the money due the member for cottonseed as each bale of cotton is ginned, the association withholds or 'retains' \$1.50 for capital purposes. For the three of these associations that have bought gin plants these 'retains' are used to pay off loans which they obtained from the Berkeley Bank for Cooperatives. After the loan is paid, this \$1.50 retain will still be made for each bale ginned. The cash funds that will be accumulated thereby will then be used to pay back these \$1.50 per bale retains that were made the first year the gin started operating. This is the revolving plan of financing applied to cooperative cotton gins. The members first buy their gin plant and then keep on buying it from themselves year after year. A new member who joins after the gin plant is paid for is forced to furnish capital just like the original members did. The member who moves away eventually gets back all the money he invested in the capital of the association. And during all this time each member furnishes capital in proportion to the number of bales he gins. The 100-bale man has to furnish 10 times as much capital as the 10-bale man...The earnings of the association are returned to the patrons as cash patronage dividends at the end of each season...."

Nematode Control      "Even though it costs \$200 per acre to rid his celery plant beds of nematodes, Dr. J. R. Watson, of the University of Florida, finds this a profitable investment," says Country Home Magazine (July). "Watson's prescription calls for 600 pounds of sodium cyanide and 900 pounds of ammonium sulphate per acre. These are separately dissolved in water. The cyanide solution is sprinkled over the beds, and the soil is then soaked with water. Next, the sulphate solution is applied, and more water is added. The two chemicals quickly react to form hydrocyanic acid, which puts a sudden end to these parasites...."



Paper Milk  
Containers

Louise P. Tanner, author of "The Paper Milk Container," in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association (June-July) says in part: "Certainly the convenience of the paper package, its ease of transportation and reduced weight should interest the milk man and the consumer who has to carry bottles from a store. A case of 12 filled glass bottles weighs about 64 pounds as against a weight of about 27 pounds for filled paper bottles. An aesthetic factor, in favor of the paper container, is that the usual odors of a dairy, a combination of stale milk in unwashed returned bottles, steam, and soggy wooden crates, are not found in the dairy which uses only paper containers. The effect of light in development of off flavors is less with paper containers than in glass bottles, a condition too frequently unappreciated by the consumer. Consumer preference for the paper milk container was evident from 221 replies to a questionnaire. Such reasons as these, aside from the public health aspects, were given for the preferences: less space occupied in the refrigerator, easier to open and close after once being opened, no washing necessary, no breaking or chipping, no bottles to be returned, excellent for picnics as they pack easily and are disposed of easily, less weight on the refrigerator shelf, empty bottles are good for kindling fires, and they eliminate noise of bottles and cases in the early morning. Some consumers objected to paper containers because they are not sufficiently translucent to show the cream line. Others complained that cream cannot be removed as easily...From the evidence at hand, it seems that a distinct advance in merchandising of milk has been made by the development of one-service paper containers for retail trade. They appear to meet all the requirements of a satisfactory receptacle for distributing fluid milk. Convenient to handle, not too expensive, and used but once, the great majority (80%) yield no microorganisms. Those which have contained microorganisms, yielded on the average only about two cells per quart container..."

## Second Growth

G. H. Lentz, of the Forest Service, in the Southern Pine Pulp & Paper Journal (June) says that during the past three years there has developed a market for small-sized second-growth timber over a large portion of the southern pine region. "The development of this market," he says, "has in some cases furnished an added impetus to the practice of forestry and has established a value, however low, for trees below sawlog size (9" diameter at breast height) and too small to be turpentineed at a profit. The greater portion of the timber on the approximately 4,700,000 acres owned or controlled by some thirty pine pulp and paper mills is second growth, much of it too small even to be cut for pulpwood. Although young stands of second-growth pine are often clear cut for pulpwood, such practices are not approved by the majority of the members of the southern pine pulpwood industry..."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXIII, No. 57

Section 1

June 21, 1939

## DIET IN DISEASE

Large-scale experiments in animal feeding in India, in which the diets eaten by various sections of India's millions of people were fed to large colonies of animals, and reproduced at the will of the research workers the same state of health and well-being and the same types of disease observed in the human population, were described yesterday for the first time by Dr. Victor G. Heiser of the Rockefeller Foundation, to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The experiments revealed, Dr. Heiser reported, that the diet eaten by certain peoples in northern India, "among whom are some of the finest specimens of mankind," produced a race of animals equally as healthy and free from disease. On the other hand, Dr. Heiser reported, animals living under exactly the same conditions but receiving a different diet developed no less than thirty-nine different serious diseases affecting practically every organ of the body, and all of them common among the human being eating the same type of diet. The health diet consisted of whole wheat flour, unleavened bread with fresh butter, sprouted gram (legume), fresh raw carrots and cabbage, whole milk, small portion of meat once a week, and an abundance of water for drinking and washing purposes. (New York Times.)

## WATERWAY BILL

The Senate Commerce Committee approved and sent to the Senate yesterday the bill authorizing expenditure of \$407,855,600 in forty-one states for waterways, flood control, power development and other purposes. The measure involves 127 projects. (Washington Post.)

## GRAIN RAIL CUT DEFERRED

The Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday suspended until next January 20 proposed railroad freight rates which would have substantially reduced carrying charges on grain shipped from the Midwest to North Atlantic ports for export. The proposed rates were scheduled to go into effect yesterday. They applied to barley, corn, oats, rye and wheat in carload lots from Chicago, Peoria, St. Louis and intervening points. The commission announced that it would investigate their reasonableness in the period of suspension. (New York Times.)



Oklahoma "Why tenants move every year was brought out in a Tenant Survey recent survey made by the Farm Landlord-Tenant Department, Oklahoma Extension Service, reports H. A. Graham, supervisor," says an editorial in Farm & Ranch (June). "Poor farming by tenants was the first reason given by the landlords for moving every year. Tenants gave as their reason for so much moving, seeking better land and buildings necessary for proper farming. Many landlords declared that some tenants abuse or destroy the property and do not keep the place up, making it difficult to rent farms to other tenants. Tenants said that competition between tenants who bid against each other for better places caused them to move. They stated that when they move on a place and fix it up so that it would be comfortable and convenient, another tenant would come along and over-bid them. Farm machinery was listed by both landlords and tenants as another reason for the increasing mobility. Some said a tractor will take the place of from three to seven tenants operating with teams..."

Planning An article, "Resources Are Wealth," in May-June  
Programs Conservation (condensed from National Resources Planning Facts) reports: "Over 1,000 towns and cities, and more than 500 of the 3,000 counties in the United States are doing planning work today. They plan ahead in order that their budgets may provide for playgrounds and parks this year and streets and highways in the years to come. They zone residential districts to protect home values and provide for the expansion of business and industry. They study their population growth and the needs of their citizens. In the light of their financial positions, they arrange programs and plans for the future. The state and national governments, to some extent, do likewise. It is only recently, however, that planning, based on comprehensive surveys of all resources, has been practiced at these higher levels of government...There are today forty-five state planning boards operating either by state laws or through governors' appointments. These boards have taken an inventory of state resources. Their studies have revealed which resources are plentiful and which are lacking. There are many problems that do not stop at state lines. Rivers, for example, carry pollution over state boundaries and the states affected have to solve problems of this kind by group agreement and action. Planning for the settlement of such difficulties is done by two or more states acting as a region. An example of this is seen in New England and the Pacific Northwest where the state planning boards cooperate as regional planning commissions to meet a variety of interstate problems. There are many different types of regions. Where there is a community of interest overlapping state lines, a metropolitan region has been developed for planning the solution of urban problems. For the federal government, the National Resources Committee makes studies of the nation's resources, and of social, industrial and economic trends, and, from these studies in an advisory capacity recommends programs and policies for conservation and development of land, water, mineral, population, scientific and technological, or other national resources..."



Coon Valley Conservation      Oldest of the Soil Conservation Service demonstration areas, Coon Valley, Wisconsin, has been transformed, says R. H. Musser, of the Soil Conservation Service, in an article, "Coon Valley -- Five Years After," in Wisconsin Agriculturist (June 17). "In 1933," he says, "the Soil Conservation Service 'moved in' on the 92,000-acre watershed. At that time, Coon Valley was known as one of the most severely eroded agricultural areas in the Upper Mississippi Valley. By cutting down much of the timber, permitting cattle to graze in the rest of it, and cultivating sloping fields in straight up-and-down hill rows, man had speeded up erosion processes tremendously. In many places huge gullies cut back through valuable crop land, and small shoestring gullies were to be found in nearly every sloping field after a heavy rain. Sheet erosion was everywhere evident. Working in cooperation with the Wisconsin Experiment Station, the Extension Service, and individual farmers, service officials set up a program of erosion control demonstrations...Today, it's clearly evident that the battle against the erosion menace is being won on the demonstration farms. Literally thousands of small shoestring gullies have been plowed in and completely healed as a result of terracing, contour strip cropping, and the other phases of the program. Dams and trees have effectively controlled larger gullies...From the standpoint of farm management, the shift in land use has been the most drastic change brought about by the conservation program. A recent survey revealed that on 374 farms included in the demonstration program, the total acreage of cultivated land has been reduced from 16,750 acres to 15,490 acres, a reduction of 7.5 percent...Crop returns can be figured pretty accurately in terms of nutrient production, and the erosion control program has resulted in an actual increase in the amount of feed produced on the farms. The reduction made in corn and grain has been more than offset by the increase in alfalfa. The production of nutrients in the form of grain has been cut nearly in half, but in the form of roughage nutrient production has been increased by more than 50 percent. The production of roughage was so much greater than the production of grain to start with that the end result is a marked increase in total feed. Approximately 23 million pounds of total digestible nutrients were produced on the farms each year before the erosion control work was started. Last year, 28,157,000 pounds were produced, an increase of more than 5,150,000 pounds..."

New Milo Maize      "When John B. Sieglinger, of the Great Plains Experiment Station, at Woodward, Oklahoma, announced his new Sooner milo maize, farmers for miles around wrote in for seed," says Country Home Magazina (July). "They knew that any plant which could stand the gaff of wind, heat and drought to which Sieglinger's experimental crops had been subjected must be a very tough specimen. Planted July 10, this dwarf, crookneck, yellow milo yielded 5 bushels of grain in the driest season which that area has ever known. Last year it yielded 45 bushels. Certified seed of this new milo is being produced at Greenfield, Oklahoma..."



Senate Began debate on H. R. 3325, to extend the time with-  
June 19 in which the powers relating to the stabilization fund  
and alteration of the weight of the dollar may be exer-  
cised.

Agreed to the conference report on S. 1569, extending to subsequent years certain provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act relating to cotton county acreage allotments (this bill will now be sent to the President).

Agreed to S. Res. 106, authorizing the committee investigating the production, transportation, and marketing of wool, to expend \$3,000 additional.

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported the following: without amendment the Coffee Federal seed bill, H. R. 5625 (S. Rept. 611); with amendment H. J. Res. 247, to provide minimum national allotments for cotton; without amendment H. J. Res. 248, to provide minimum national allotments for wheat. Committee on Education and Labor reported with amendment S. 1032, to amend the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act (S. Rept. 616).

House Passed H. R. 6851, revenue bill, by a vote of 357 to  
June 19 1.

Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 5762, to provide for temporary postponement of the operations of certain provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (this bill will now be sent to the President).

Received the conference report on H. R. 6392, State, Justice, and Commerce appropriation bill.

Committee on Public Lands reported without amendment H. R. 1675, to establish a national land policy and to provide homesteads free of debt for actual farm families (H. Rept. 866).

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Silage Cutter "Just as the threshing ring is being dissolved by  
for One-Plow individually owned small harvesters, so may the silo  
filling ring give way to smaller ensilage cutters for  
the farmer's own use," says Farm Implement News (June 17). "There is  
a new large capacity cutter for one-plow tractor power, 5 H.P. electric  
motor or any larger power. The Wisconsin system of silo filling with-  
out a big crew makes use of the new smaller cutters running at slow  
speed and requiring less power...The cutter turns out 12 to 22 tons of  
corn or grass silage an hour. It can be quickly set up by one man to  
put up a crop of green legume or grass silage on a moment's notice.  
Phosphoric acid, molasses or whey preservative are easily fed into the  
blower. This same outfit chops 2 to 4 tons of dry hay or straw per  
hour and blows it into the mow, requiring less storage space than baled  
hay. With a simple screen attachment, the machine makes roughage re-  
cut meal. The junior ensilage cutter is a natural development in the  
wake of one-plow tractors where a large capacity with this amount of  
power is desired...."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXIII, No. 58

Section 1

June 22, 1939

**APPROPRIATION BILL ACTION** A Senate-House conference committee agreed yesterday on an Agriculture Department appropriation bill carrying more than \$1,200,000,000 for the fiscal year 1940, according to an Associated Press report. Representative Cannon of Missouri said House conferees had accepted the \$225,000,000 increase voted by the Senate for additional farm benefit payments, but would ask separate House votes on numerous other Senate increases. Senator Bankhead of Alabama said the conference group had made reductions of only \$13,126,439 from the \$1,219,000,000 total approved by the Senate.

Senator Bankhead said a compromise on the administration proposal for a government subsidy for cotton exports was the final item in the Senate-House Committee agreement, which now must go back to both chambers for approval. Under the bill as approved by the Senate, about \$50,000,000 would be available to subsidize cotton exports. This would come from \$90,000,000 available from customs receipts and \$113,000,000 additional voted by the Senate for farm surplus removal operations. He said the conferees had agreed that one-half of the total available for cotton from the \$113,000,000 would be utilized to increase domestic uses of cotton, while the balance could be used "as the Secretary of Agriculture sees fit."

The \$225,000,000 for benefit payments accepted by the House conferees would be in addition to \$500,000,000 previously approved by the House for farmers growing wheat, cotton, corn, rice and tobacco under the administration program.

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**COTTON EXPORT EMERGENCY** Secretary of Agriculture Wallace yesterday cited Secretary of State Hull as an advocate of a cotton-export subsidy as an emergency measure and thus sought to refute contentions in certain quarters that Mr. Hull, in particular, and other members of the Cabinet are opposed to what Mr. Wallace considers the most practical and least expensive means of recapturing American cotton markets abroad. Secretary Wallace said the cotton situation presented a real emergency to the country. Mr. Wallace, after consultation with the State Department, said: "Both departments, I believe, are agreed that the trade agreements program represents the soundest long-term approach to the solution of the foreign trade relations of the United States, and that these programs contribute to the solution of the export surplus problem and the wealth of the entire nation." (New York Times.)

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Serum for Distemper      Dogs no longer die of distemper at the rate of every dog that gets the disease, Lieut. Col. Raymond A. Kelser, chief of the U. S. Army Veterinary Corps, reported recently to the virus conference of the Harvard Medical School. Many dog lives are now being saved by a serum which if used early markedly cuts the course of the disease. This most important known dog disease and human influenza may, Col. Kelser said, be caused by a very similar virus which at one time branched from a common stem. The two diseases are strikingly similar and the virus is an organism renowned for its ability to adapt itself to a new host. The serum against distemper is made from the blood of artificially immunized dogs, that is, dogs vaccinated against distemper and then injected with tremendous doses of the living virus which spurs their bodies to build up even more resistance against the disease. The vaccine alone is not sufficient protection, and while scientists would like to dispense with the inoculations of the living virus, that step, Col. Kelser said, must await further research. No specific drug for distemper is known. (Science Service.)

Course in Chemurgy      "A new kind of agricultural education was set in motion recently when North Texas State Teachers College inaugurated a course in chemurgic education during the summer to acquaint teachers with a new type of thinking," says an editorial in the Dallas Morning News (June 9). "Texas, as the nation's greatest producer of raw materials from cotton, wool, mohair, pine and gum cellulose, cattle and hides, milk and casein to sulphur, natural gas, petroleum and lignite, stands to benefit vastly from chemurgic industries. With one half of the state's former cotton markets probably lost to competing nations, there is every reason why farmers should be encouraged to produce such new raw industrial materials as cellulose, starch, vegetable oils, proteins, gums and resins to serve a series of integrated new Texas industries. Chemurgy has passed the experimental stage. The dedication of the \$6,000,000 East Texas newsprint mill at Lufkin is an example of a logical chemurgic industry using the product of its young forests. Educational effort by Texas teachers colleges along this new line can only result in great good not only to farmers but to all the people who will benefit from improved farm income through new industries served by the farm."

Hog, Cattle Prospects      A temporary seasonal reduction in the marketing of hogs and an increase in offerings of grain-fed cattle for the next few months have been predicted by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The extent of the decrease in hog marketings will depend in part on crop prospects and on the start of the movement of spring pigs, according to the bureau. Losses of spring pigs were reported to be large, although this year's total crop is larger. Marketings of grain-fed cattle probably will continue larger than a year ago during the remainder of 1939. Further, slaughter supplies of sheep and lambs probably will be smaller this summer than they were a year ago, the bureau said. The quality and finish of the lambs will be lower than a year ago because of poor pastures and range conditions in the spring. (Associated Press.)



Arkansas                    C. O. Brannen, assistant director of research,  
Land Policy                Arkansas Experiment Station, in the Arkansas Farmer  
                              (June) writes on a new state land policy act, for disposing of state-owned lands. "The land is to be inspected and classified," he says in part, "to determine whether it is suitable for private ownership or whether it should be retained by the state, and also to determine, in case it is found suitable for private ownership, whether it should be set aside as homestead land for settlement by farmers or whether it should be sold for other purposes. If it is classified as homestead land, it is donated by the state to settlers. If it is classified as non-homestead land, it is then subject to sale at its appraised value. If the land is not suitable for homestead or sale to private individuals, it may be allocated to state agencies, subject to their consent, for state forests, state parks, or other public purposes. Tracts of land may be classified as free land for homestead purposes on condition that the tract is large enough and productive enough to support a farm family...All state land which is not suitable for homestead purposes, and which is not considered suitable for continued state ownership, may be sold to the highest bidder...Another feature of the new land policy gives the State Land Commissioner authority to donate, sell, or lease state lands to the federal government for settlement purposes. The purpose is to make state lands available to such agencies as the Farm Security Administration and on such conditions as will enable such agencies to assist worthy tenants to become owners...Other features include restrictions in deeds to land passing to private ownership, which will prevent, for a specified period of years, the exploitation of timber or other natural resources..."

Plains States              Offering figures or, as he said, "simple arithmetic,"  
Windbreaks                Secretary of Agriculture Wallace declares that it was not  
                              difficult to provide the answer to the value of President  
Roosevelt's suggestion that tree strips in the Plain States would serve as effective windbreaks. By the end of the planting season this year, he reported, tree strips would be planted on more than 20,000 farms to help protect crops, soils, livestock and human beings from prairie winds. "Under the supervision of the Forest Service, the Federal Government has used only \$8,254,962 of emergency and WPA funds since 1935 to plant 127,000,000 trees and shrubs in the 11,000 miles of field windbreak," he said. "The actual cost to the government of growing and planting a tree is now about four cents. The bookkeeping cost, which doesn't discount investments in equipment, nursery stock, etc., is about five and three-fourths cents this year." Mr. Wallace urged farmers who already had a primary field-windbreak to begin the planting of one, two and three-row intermediate strips of trees to give more complete protection to their crops and soils. (New York Times.)



Senate Continued debate on H. R. 3325, to extend the time  
June 20 within which the powers relating to the stabilization  
fund and alteration of the weight of the dollar may be  
exercised.

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendment H. R.  
4998, to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act (S. Rept. 629).

House Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 6260, War  
June 20 Department civil appropriation bill.  
Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 5427, Labor  
Department appropriation bill.

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

California Pacific Rural Press (June 17) reports that the  
Citrus Boxes Governor of California has signed a bill which prohibits  
shipments of oranges and lemons outside the state ex-  
cept in standard boxes. "It is felt the measure will have a stabilizing  
effect on the market for California oranges and lemons, as it will pre-  
vent shipping bulk loads of unsized, ungraded and uninspected oranges  
and lemons. Consumer packages up to 15 pounds and shipments for relief  
purposes are exempted."

Mt. Washington Writing on "Mount Washington Observatory," in New  
Observatory England Naturalist (June) the author, Arthur E. Bent,  
secretary, says in part: "In addition to the (routine  
weather) observations, there are various research projects under way.  
One of the most interesting is a study of ice formation, a matter of  
great importance in aviation. We have also studied the turbulence of  
the air in the lee of the summit, and it is disclosed that the magni-  
tude of the disturbance near a mountain is greater than supposed.  
Weather conditions are so extreme on Mount Washington that it has been  
necessary to invent new techniques of measurement and, in certain cases,  
new instruments. During the past winter there has been developed and  
tested a new type of anemometer which may give us greater knowledge of  
the detailed structure of the wind. The regular anemometer, which was  
built some years ago, is provided with an electrical heating unit for  
melting the rime, or mountain frost, which would otherwise form on  
the instrument and impair the operation of the rotating portion. Other  
matters, such as the intensity of solar radiation and the variation in  
ultra-high frequency radio signals, have been investigated and reports  
published in many scientific journals. A large part of the maintenance  
of the Observatory is provided by the U. S. Weather Bureau, the State of  
New Hampshire, and the Yankee Network radio organization..."

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Vol. LXXIII, No. 59

Section 1

June 23, 1939

## LENDING PROGRAM PROPOSED

A new national lending program calling for a "revolving fund" of \$3,860,000 and calculated to spur lagging business recovery by attracting idle investment capital into the financing of non-federal public works and other self-liquidating projects was proposed by President Roosevelt yesterday in letters to Senate and House leaders. The plan contemplates loan disbursements of \$870,000,000 during the fiscal year beginning July 1. The President emphasized that, with no "out-of-pocket" cost to the government, it would have no effect on the federal budget. Specifically, the President proposed that certain federal agencies not now permitted to do so be authorized to issue government-guaranteed bonds to finance the various self-liquidating loans proposed, the amount of such obligations to be outstanding at any one time to be arbitrarily limited by administrative direction.

Among the loans proposed are the following: Expansion of the rural electrification program to reach a maximum of 1,250,000 families not now receiving electric service nor "likely to receive such service in the near future," \$460,000,000 to be disbursed over 7 years with \$20,000,000 available in 1939-40; expansion of the self-liquidating portion of the Farm Security Administration's program for tenant farm purchases, rehabilitation, loans for minor improvements and repairs and to resettlement cooperatives and for water facilities, \$500,000,000 over 2 years with \$250,000,000 available in 1939-40; extension of long and short term credits to foreign governments for promoting foreign trade, the proceeds to be spent in the United States and used for development and reconstruction in the borrowing country, \$500,000,000 over 2 years, \$200,000,000 in 1939-40. (New York Times.)

## FARM CASH INCOME

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Farmers' cash income for May, according to estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, totaled \$508,000,000, an increase of 10 percent on the estimate of \$463,000,000 for April and \$2,000,000 below the income reported for May 1938. Government payments to farmers in May amounted to \$31,000,000, a decrease of \$9,000,000, compared with April, but an increase of \$37,000,000 over May last year. Including government payments, farmers' total cash income in May is estimated at \$589,000,000, compared with \$553,000,000 for April and \$554,000,000 for May last year. (New York Times.)  
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**Grasshopper  
Campaign**

With the additional \$1,750,000 for grasshopper control recently appropriated by Congress, the campaign against grasshopper infestations that promised to be the most serious in several decades has been continued at full speed, the Department announces. With the weather dry at hatching time and ideal for hopper development, and the season much earlier than usual in Oklahoma, Texas and Arizona where enormous quantities of eggs were laid last fall, the funds for grasshopper control provided by the First Deficiency Act were exhausted the first week in June. By that time 180,000 tons of poison bait had been sent to the 24 States facing heavy crop losses from hoppers. This is all States west of the Mississippi and Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois. B. M. Gaddis, of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, who is directing the campaign, says that an equal amount of the poison materials probably will be needed before the end of the summer. The Department buys the bait ingredients and ships them to selected centers, where they are mixed and distributed through local agencies to farmers, who spread the bait over their fields. There are three distinct grasshopper problems this year, Mr. Gaddis says, the lesser migratory grasshopper in the northwestern Great Plains; the long-winged migratory hopper in the southern plains area; and the crop land species prevalent throughout the infested area. Department officials are confident that this year's control campaign will go far toward protecting crops against grasshoppers.

**Civil Service**

The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: No. 58, unassembled; Associate Warehouse Examiner, \$3,200, Assistant Warehouse Examiner, \$2,600 (Optional subjects: (1) Bulk Grain Warehouses, (2) Canned Fruit and Vegetable Warehouses, (3) Cotton Warehouses, (4) Sack Grain Warehouses); Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No. 57, assembled; Junior Warehouse Examiner, \$2,000 (Optional subjects: (1) Cotton warehouses, (2) Grain warehouses); Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No. 59, assembled; Senior Field Aid (Forage Crops), \$2,000, Assistant Laboratory Aid (Plant Technology), \$1,620, Junior Field Aid, \$1,440, Junior Laboratory Aid, \$1,440, Bureau of Plant Industry. Applications must be on file not later than the following dates: (a) July 17, if received from States other than those named in (b), (b) July 20, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**Wis. Vacuum  
Sealed Milk**

An article in The Canner (June 17) by Raymond Hatfield, says that sterilized milk in vacuum sealed bottles is now being distributed through food stores in Wisconsin, in specially designed, non-returnable glass bottles. This new product is being marketed in Wisconsin by licensed creameries.



FSCC Head on                      The president of the Federal Surplus Commodities  
Food Stamps                      Corporation, Milo Perkins, in an address this week be-  
   fore the National Association of Retail Grocers, said  
in part: "The Stamp Plan places a tremendous responsibility upon the  
food trades of America. They recognize this, and at their suggestion  
every grocer in Rochester and Dayton has signed an honor pledge to  
follow the rules and regulations to the letter. There is no inter-  
ference with private business by it. If it is expanded upon a nation-  
wide basis, the farmers of the country will be counting upon you to  
make an aggressive effort to sell their surplus products and thereby  
give them a greater income with which to buy those things which jobless  
men in the cities should be at work producing for them. All housewives  
in America will be counting upon you to sell them surplus foods as  
reasonably as you can; you should make a greater net profit than you  
made before, however, because of the increased volume of business which  
the Stamp Plan makes possible...

"The plan has been in operation in Rochester for about a month,  
while it has been working in Dayton for only a couple of weeks...In  
Rochester the plan has been in operation over two pay periods. There  
are 10,500 cases eligible to buy orange stamps and 3,500 WPA workers  
eligible to ask that the cost of the orange stamps be deducted from  
their pay checks. Nearly 15 percent of these cases are single persons,  
and since the Stamp Plan is best suited to families, we would consider  
that we had complete participation in Rochester if 3,000 WPA families  
bought the stamps and 9,000 families in other categories of public  
assistance purchased them. Seven hundred and sixty-one WPA families  
bought them during the first pay period which covered the last half of  
May, although there were only a few days in which to ask for pay-roll  
deductions. During the second pay period, which covered the first half  
of June, 1,568 WPA families took advantage of the plan. Four thousand  
and nine hundred families out of a possible 9,000 other eligible fami-  
lies bought them during the first pay period, while 6,500 such families  
participated during the second pay period. Participation, which is  
wholly voluntary, increased by about 40 percent, therefore, during the  
second pay period...

"Apparently, the Stamp Plan will bring a net sales increase of over  
a million dollars a year to the grocers of Rochester so far as blue  
stamp purchases of surplus foods are concerned. That's only half the  
story, however. The grocers are making an aggressive effort to sell  
surplus foods to all housewives, and if they succeed in increasing their  
sales to non-relief families, they will be rendering an enormous service  
to the farmers of the country. We have reason to hope, therefore, that  
a dollar of Government money spent through normal trade channels under  
the Stamp Plan will move more than a dollar's worth of surplus foods.  
If it does, the taxpayer will be getting a bargain. We have been under  
a great deal of pressure from cities throughout the country to expand  
this program. It has seemed wiser to move forward cautiously, however,  
particularly during this experimental period..."



Senate  
June 21                      Concurred in a House amendment to a Senate amendment to H. R. 6260, War Department civil appropriation bill, which contains an item of \$3,000,000 to be transferred to this Department for flood-control work (this bill will now be sent to the President).

Committee on Finance reported with amendments H. R. 6851, revenue bill of 1939 (S. Rept. 648).

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendment S. 1836, to promote farm ownership by amending the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act to provide for Government-insured loans to farmers, to encourage sale of farms held by absentee owners to farm tenants, and to enable tenant farmers to become owners of farm homes through long-term low-interest-rate loans on farms (S. Rept. 649).

Committee on Banking and Currency reported with amendments S. 2240, to provide for a national census of housing (S. Rept. 647).

Committee on Public Lands reported without amendment S. 2152, to protect scenic values along the Catalina Highway within the Coronado National Forest, Ariz. (S. Rept. 639); and with amendment S. 2619, to provide a measure of damages for trespass involving timber and other forests products upon lands of the United States (S. Rept. 640).

Committee on Commerce reported with amendments S. 1989, to provide for the alteration of certain bridges and the apportionment of the cost of such alterations between the U. S. and the owners of such bridges (S. Rept. 658).

House  
June 21                      Committee on District of Columbia reported with amendment H. R. 6316, to amend the D. C. Milk Control Act (H. Rept. 904).

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Promotion  
Regulations                  Booked as the first major accomplishment of the Council on Personnel Administration, revised promotion regulations for Government employes will go into effect July 1. It gives various departments and agencies the right to hold examinations for specialized job step-ups. The Civil Service Commission will remain in charge of all promotion examinations for jobs general to two or more agencies and will retain supervisory control of the others. All typing and secretarial promotions, for instance, will continue to be controlled by the commission. For career jobs in such agencies as the Bureau of Home Economics, on the other hand, administrative and personnel officials will be permitted to prepare their own promotion examinations. This, according to the personnel council, will put promotion on a more personalized basis, free the commission from some of its "omnibus qualities," and insure requirements that fit the particular job. (Washington Post.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

June 26, 1939

**COTTON-RUBBER** An agreement for the exchange on a barter basis of  
**BARTER SIGNED** British rubber for United States cotton for use in war-time has been signed in England, says an Associated Press report from London. Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy signed for the United States and Oliver Stanley, president of the Board of Trade, for the British government. Negotiations for the large-scale transaction involving the "exchange of certain raw materials required as strategic reserves in both countries" were opened more than a month ago. Assurances were given at a special committee meeting of the Liverpool Cotton Association that the cotton stocks in question would not come on the market for at least five years and then through ordinary channels. It was also said that the cotton trade would not oppose a bill to legalize the barter deal and the cotton association agreed to name experts to sample cotton in the United States and arrange for its acceptance in Great Britain. It was reliably understood the agreement would involve 600,000 bales of United States cotton. Against this, Great Britain would accumulate for the United States stocks of rubber for any emergency.

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**EZEKIEL ON** Governmental underwriting of the expansion result-  
**FEDERAL** ing from the operation of "consistent" programs of full  
**POLICIES** production was urged by a government official at the annual Economics Conference for Engineers at Johnsonburg, New Jersey, yesterday, says a report to the New York Times. Dr. Mordecai Ezekiel, economic adviser of the Department of Agriculture, declared the United States is a "\$100,000,000,000 country running at a \$65,000,000,000 level," and said neither business, labor nor the farmer can prosper "while we are running at two-thirds speed." He called upon industry to cooperate with government to create more jobs and a higher level of employment by increasing investment and developing programs for expansion of activity. "When savings are hoarded, either in the hands of individuals, financial institutions or business concerns, men lose jobs and production and industrial activity decline," he said. "That is why the government had to step in and spend money. Its expenditures have merely offset hoarding elsewhere and made it possible for activity to keep up despite the hoarding."

Dr. Ezekiel said that there was "much nonsense" in talk about the dangers of inflation from present expenditures, and declared that "so long as we are operating below full employment and full use of resources there is no danger of price inflation from present methods of public financing."

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USDA Seed  
Services

W. A. Wheeler, in the Agricultural Situation (June) in an article on the seed industry, says: "...The Department established the Seed Verification Service in 1927 so that farmers could purchase seed with an assured knowledge of its origin. Practically all of the larger handlers of alfalfa and red cloverseed in the Northern and Central States, about 100 in number, voluntarily subscribed to this program and have handled many millions of pounds of verified-origin alfalfa and red cloverseed...The Seed Reporting Service, initiated as a war measure in 1917, has become a permanent part of the Department's general program of furnishing crop and market information...The buying of forage seeds 'in the dirt' has been subject to many abuses and dangers. In order to give the producer and the country buyer or the wholesale dealer a better basis on which such seeds might be bought the Seed Dockage Inspection Service was established in 1938...The emphasis on germination, purity, and noxious-weed-seed determinations in field seeds has resulted in the development of testing laboratories. State agricultural experiment stations and the Federal Department initiated this move...The first Federal seed legislation was the Seed Importation Act passed in 1912 to control the quality of imports of certain forage seeds. Subsequently this act was amended to enlarge the scope of control on imports, to provide for the distinctive coloring of imported alfalfa and red cloverseed so as to indicate countries of origin, and to give some control over misbranding of seed in interstate commerce...Two years ago a Seed Policy Committee was established in the Department to consider problems relating to the Federal Seed Act, the Seed Verification Service, and other matters of policy connected with seeds. This committee has recommended the general labeling of field seeds in interstate commerce with better and more comprehensive information relating to kind, variety, origin, purity, noxious-weed-seed content, and germination, more ethical advertising of seeds, a system of records which will provide for better label information on variety and origin, and the elimination or restriction of the sale of screenings for seed purposes..."

Newsprint  
from Pine

Booth Mooney, in an article in the Texas Weekly (June 3) on the South's first newsprint mill, at Lufkin, says in part: "It is expected that the mill will be in operation by next January, which means that this time next year more than a million subscribers of daily newspapers of the South will be reading their news from pages produced from the wealth of pine growing all about the city of Lufkin. The term 'wealth of pine' is not used idly, for within a radius of fifty miles of the millsite are 3,500,000 acres of pine lands containing nearly 20,000,000 cords of wood. The company itself owns 108,000 acres of timberlands within twenty-five miles of the mill. However, it will not draw upon this supply to the exclusion of other sources. Present plans call for purchasing much of the wood to be used from private landowners in the section, which will



add to the value of pine as a cash crop and give the landowners around Lufkin a new market and a new source of income. And the crop should continue indefinitely to be valuable, for it has been shown that the supply of pine will reproduce itself every fifteen years if reforestation work is carried on with reasonable consistency."

Homogenized Milk Defined Leslie C. Frank of The U. S. Public Health Service has announced the following definition of homogenized milk has been approved by the P. H. S. Sanitation Advisory Board: "Homogenized milk is milk which has been treated in such manner as to insure breakup of the fat globules to such an extent that after 48 hours storage no visible cream separation occurs on the milk and the fat percentage of the top 100 Ml. of milk in a quart bottle, or of proportionate volumes in containers of other sizes, does not differ by more than 5 percent of itself from the fat percentage of the remaining milk as determined after thorough mixing." (Southern Dairy Products Journal, June.)

American Desert The man-made Great American Desert in the country around the Great Lakes is a challenge to the good sense, industry and executive ability of Americans, Dr. Rafael Zon, director of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station, recently told economists and foresters, at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. It is a wilderness of stumps, brush and fire scars. The timber wealth has been stripped, the game is largely gone, unsystematic, unplanned farm settlement has not been a success. The population is sparse, and what people you find there are poverty-stricken. It need not be thus forever, Dr. Zon declared. If the present owners can handle the second growth of timber more intelligently and social-mindedly than did their fathers, there can be a stable livelihood for at least a moderately large population. Small-wood industries can be encouraged. Farming adapted to the land can be introduced. Game and fish can be restored, and recreational activities redeveloped. Slash and small trees, now wasted in millions of tons, can be made up into fireplace fuel for easy truck-hauls to nearby cities. "Under favorable conditions, I cannot see why the cutover region could not support a density of population similar to that of Sweden, Finland and Norway," said Dr. Zon. "That means a population from two to two and one-half million." (Science Service.)

Portable Milker A new portable milker makes use of a portable pump which can be moved along behind the cows while being milked, and thus eliminating the necessity for a pipe line in the barn. The portable vacuum pump weighs 175 lb. complete and is powered by either a 110-volt A.C., or 32-volt D.C. motor of 1/3-hp. The motor is rubber mounted so that it operates quietly and without vibration. Stainless-steel pails of one-piece design are also a new feature for either the portable or pipe-line milkers. Since there are no overlapping welds or soldered seams they are easy to clean. (Implement & Tractor, June 10.)



Senate Passed H. R. 6851, revenue bill. Gurney amendment to exempt from taxation gasoline mixed with 10 percent of alcohol made from farm products was defeated.

Appropriation The House agreed to the conference report on Bill Action H. R. 5269, agricultural appropriation bill, by a vote of 180 to 175. The following actions were taken on the amendments reported in disagreement: Receded and concurred in the following Senate amendments---Provision that in sales of forest products the amounts made available for schools and roads shall be based upon stumpage value of timber; Sweetpotato-weevil control, \$75,000; Mexican fruitfly control, \$160,460; Citrus canker eradication, \$13,485; Gypsy and brown-tail moth control, \$375,000; Dutch elm disease eradication, \$500,000; Thurberia weevil control, \$2,808; Authorizing purchase or construction of small buildings under Forest roads and trails;

Receded and concurred in the following Senate amendments with amendment---Pink bollworm control, \$906,800, after rejecting by a vote of 43 to 99 a motion by Mr. Kleberg to recede and concur in the Senate amendment providing \$1,366,800; Disposal of surplus commodities, \$113,000,000, with an amendment providing that not more than 50 percent of the part of this appropriation allocated to cotton may be used to encourage exportation of cotton, by a vote of 145 to 100;

Insisted on disagreement to the following Senate amendment--- Extension work, additional payments of \$300,000, after rejecting by a vote of 64 to 78 a motion by Mr. Case of S. D. to recede and concur; Weather Bureau building, \$250,000, after rejecting by a vote of 44 to 133 a motion by Mr. Cannon of Mo. to recede and concur; Federal aid in wildlife restoration, \$2,000,000, after rejecting by a vote of 45 to 98 a motion by Mr. Robertson to recede and concur.

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce reported with amendment H. R. 944, wool products labeling bill (H. Rept. 907).

Committee on D. C. reported without amendment S. 1575, to provide that the annual registration of motor vehicles in the District of Columbia shall be from April 1 in each year to March 31 in the succeeding year (H. Rept. 909).

(Prepared by the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Electric "Test meters are being placed on ranges, refrigerators, feed grinders, etc., in farms on Rural Electrification Administration power lines so REA will have up-to-date and accurate information about how well these appliances operate and just how economical they are in ordinary use," says Rural Electrification News (June). "REA knows that the best test is one made on the appliance in actual use, not one made under artificial conditions. Selected farm families on REA-financed lines will have an opportunity to cooperate. The users will be provided with an appliance test meter..."